



# THE RADCLYFFE SCHOOL

## “Working Together for Excellence”

### NEWSLETTER



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**Nominated for a Pride in Oldham Award**

**Pictures courtesy of Oldham Chronicle**

**The Duke of Edinburgh Scheme**

**Make Your Mark Challenge 2009**

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To all our Students and Parents  
A very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful and Prosperous New Year  
Mr Hayer, Staff and Governors

### GENERATION GAME WINNERS

A PROJECT to break down barriers between different generations in Oldham is in line for another accolade. The Age Exchange project at The Radclyffe School has already received the royal seal of approval when pupils visited Prince Charles at Clarence House in 2007. And now it is celebrating its eighth year with a Pride in Oldham Award nomination.



The joint initiative with Age Concern pairs Year 7 pupils with a local pensioner. Over 10 weeks the youngsters then produce a book of their partner's story, which is presented to them at a celebration event. The programme, which pupils do in their free time, includes a wartime cookery session using rations such as powdered eggs. Pupils also help the pensioners develop their IT skills.

History teacher Deborah Mason co-ordinates the scheme which she said helps to smash stereotypes. "By the end, the pupils' perceptions of older people have completely changed. They just see the person," she explained. "A lot of older people, particularly if they live alone, also see young people as jobs and intimidating; their ideas change as well. It is just a really good inter-generational project."

Proud head teacher Hardial Hayer is delighted with the nomination and said: "It is a win win situation for Age Concern people and our pupils. They think what our students do is wonderful. At the same time our students find that these people were young once too and had the same issues, all be it from a different period."

### **SCHOOL CLOSURES FOR CHRISTMAS**

Please note that for our students school will close for Christmas at 12.30 pm on Friday 18th December 2009.

Classes will begin in the new year for all students at 8.35 am on Monday 4th January 2010.

On Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2009 23 year 9 Gifted and Talented students took part in a National Enterprise Competition 'The Make Your Mark Challenge 2009'.

The competition was a one day event with over 60,000 students from across the country taking part. In teams of 4-6, students were challenged to come up with a new and innovative business idea that took its inspiration from something local.

The business could be a product or a service as long as it was a 'cool creation' that minimised its impact on the environment. In the afternoon students then had to 'pitch' their ideas to a 'Dragons Den' panel.

Students learnt many new skills throughout the day such as dealing with uncertainty and risk taking, developing problem solving qualities and strategic thinking and developing financial literacy skills. The day was enjoyed by all students who took part, impressing the judges with their ideas and innovations.

*The winning team*

*'Little Green Badge' -*

- Laura Broome,*
- Alex Pearson,*
- Fahim Alam,*
- Tahmid Alam,*
- Harvey Jones and*
- Nazmul Khan.*



**SCIENCE AND RELIGION: A CREATIVE PARTNERSHIP**

**Congratulations to members of 11L1 RS group who have successfully completed films as part of the Creative Partnerships cross curricular project.** Students involved have worked alongside professional film maker, Mark Haig, to create thought provoking short films, linking themes and probing questions about the relationship between Science and Religion. Particular mention goes to Sa'ad Moughal, Mohammed Ghafar, Cameron Da Silva and Ellie Monaghan for their outstanding contributions to the project.

**LOUT BEHAVIOUR IS CUT BY TWO THIRDS**

**A thriving Chadderton community centre has slashed anti-social behaviour by two-thirds.** The Radclyffe Outreach Centre opened every day during the summer holidays keeping youngsters off the street and out of trouble. From July 15 to September 6 there was a 69 per cent reduction in anti-social behaviour from the same period last year.

Thanks to the success of the summer scheme the centre has been granted more funding so it can open on Tuesday and Friday evenings until March 2010. Nicola Melvin, Community Plan Family Support Coordinator of the ROC, said: "The key to the success of the centre was asking the young people what they wanted in their neighbourhood to get them off the streets. I am proud to say that many of them have now taken up college courses and are back on the right track towards making a better life for themselves. This is a great result for the centre and is a credit to the young people who have been involved in the activities."



**SPORTS NEWS**

- A group of Year 10 boys had a very successful taster session at the Boxing Academy at Hopwood Hall. Tutor Jimmy Barker was particularly impressed with the students' discipline and their enthusiasm. They enjoyed a very rewarding afternoon.
- Year 11 Boys had a successful season in the Greater Manchester Schools Football Cup. They got to the fifth round before losing 3-2 to Trinity High School.
- The Year 8 Football team are through to the Quarter Finals of the Oldham Schools Cup after beating Grange 8-0. They are also through to the Quarter Finals of the Greater Manchester Cup after victories over Crompton House, Urmston Grammar and Little Lever from Bolton. Little Lever were beaten 7-6 on penalties after a thrilling 5-5 draw. Goalkeeper Paul Mullen was the hero, scoring from the spot and then dusting himself down to save the vital penalty and book a place in the last 8.



**ROYTON AIR CADETS SUCCESS**

**1855 (Royton) Squadron, Air Training Corps have recently been crowned 'National Champion Marching Band' for the United Kingdom.**

This squadron includes Rebecca Tugwell, Robert Jackson and Daniel Johnson; students of The Radclyffe School.

We send our congratulations to the Cadets and especially to Rebecca, Robert and Daniel.



**STUDENT ABSENCE**

**PLEASE ENSURE YOU INFORM SCHOOL BEFORE 9am EACH DAY IF YOUR CHILD IS ABSENT FROM SCHOOL FOR ANY REASON. THANK YOU**

## UNIFORM RULES

We insist that the correct school uniform is worn by all students during school hours, whilst travelling to and from school and on all other school occasions. Please see below:

- ◆ A black school blazer with a school badge
- ◆ Black school trousers or skirt—(at least knee length without a split hem)
- ◆ White shirt or blouse—tucked into trousers or skirt
- ◆ Black and red striped school tie—with nine stripes showing below the knot (clip on tie compulsory for Year 7 students)
- ◆ Black V neck pullover with a red stripe around the neck—can be worn under the blazer but not instead of it - **Coloured jumpers, Denim, hooded, leather or jackets with large emblems are NOT acceptable**
- ◆ Plain black or white socks or black or flesh coloured plain tights
- ◆ Low heeled **PLAIN** black shoes. **SHOES WITH COLOURED SOLES, MARKINGS, SANDALS, TRAINERS OR CANVAS SHOES, INCLUDING PUMPS, ARE NOT ALLOWED. BOOTS are allowed to and from school but not whilst in school.**
- ◆ Hair should be kept to a reasonable length. Exaggerated styles and colours, shaved heads or shaved patterns will not be permitted
- ◆ A plain black headscarf may be worn
- ◆ Jewellery, Mobile telephones, MP3's or any other electronic equipment are NOT allowed
- ◆ Make up is not to be worn in school or to and from school
- ◆ A school bag is essential and all students are expected to bring one to school each day

**PLEASE CONTACT US IF  
YOU HAVE ANY  
QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS**

### THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH SCHEME

This year The Radclyffe School will be running the Duke of Edinburgh Award. This is a fantastic opportunity, which is open to all students in Year 9 and Year 10. The Award can be completed at three levels: Bronze, Silver and Gold. It is aimed at young people and encourages their personal development; this is achieved through the 4 sections:

- Physical recreation - any form of sporting activity
- Skill - students must pursue a hobby, interest or skill
- Volunteering - students must be involved in a project helping the environment, individuals, the community or all 3 areas
- Expedition - Training for, planning and completing a journey on foot

The first 3 sections will be completed for an hour a week over 3 months, with one of the activities being continued for a further 3 months. The expedition will take place in the summer.

Each activity will take place in the students' own time and will therefore not impact on their education. The level of commitment required and the skills developed throughout the award are recognised and valued by colleges, universities and employers alike.

**Any student who wishes to take part in the Award should speak to Mr. Kearns in 3D04.**

### LEARNING MENTOR SUMMER ART SCHOOL

The Learning Mentors ran an Art Summer School for students who are interested in Art or just wanted something fun to do during the holidays. The aim was to look at the works of John Squire and Roger Hampson and create some work based on their Art.

This included a visit to Gallery Oldham where the students had the opportunity to observe and research the work at first hand.

All students received a certificate and a prize for taking part in the Learning Mentor Summer Schools.



### **CAFE MOJO ACCOUNT**

**REMINDER— Change is NOT available from School.**

As from September the Cafe Mojo payment machine, located near the Sports Hall, has accepted both **notes** and **coins**.

Students should use this machine as change is no longer available from the Finance or School office. Thank you.

### CROSS CURRICULAR DAY: IDENTITY AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY

On Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2009 normal lessons were abandoned for Year 7 students at The Radclyffe School to enable them to explore their own identity and explore in-depth the richness of cultural diversity in their world.

Students experienced opportunities to work with and listen to the International Performance Poet, Levi Tafari. They explored their own identity and investigated another culture. The students worked really hard and had a really enjoyable day.





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THE RADCLYFFE SCHOOL

*"Working Together for Excellence"*

We're on the Web!  
at  
[www.theradcliffeschool.co.uk](http://www.theradcliffeschool.co.uk)

## Attendance and Punctuality

Good attendance is vital for all our students if they are to gain the most from the education we provide. There are clearly documented links between regular attendance and attainment.

### THE ROLE OF THE PARENTS / CARERS

This school values its partnership with parents/carers. We believe that a student is able to achieve their best when:

- ✓ The school and the family work together
- ✓ Parents/carers take an active interest in their child's schoolwork
- ✓ Parents/carers ensure that their child attends regularly and do not allow time off for trivial or unacceptable reasons
- ✓ Parents contact school on the first day of absence and provide the reason for absence and intended return date
- ✓ Parents provide a written note on the day of their child's return to school
- ✓ Parents avoid taking their children on holiday during term time
- ✓ Parents attend any necessary meetings and respond as quickly as possible to any letters and information about their child's attendance.

## HOLIDAYS DURING TERM-TIME

We would like to remind all parents / carers on behalf of the Local Authority that all absence during term-time should be avoided wherever possible and should always be authorised by the school **before** any travel arrangements are made. Parents do not have the legal right to take their child out of school on holiday during term-time and holidays during term-time can have a detrimental impact on your child's educational achievement.

**Applications for Leave of Absence should be completed and submitted to School with a least 6 weeks notice.**

If holidays are taken during term-time without the school's authorisation, there is a likelihood that you will be issued a **Fixed Penalty Notice** by the School Attendance Improvement Service. Please note that a Fixed Penalty Notice can be issued when there are at least 5 days unauthorised absence (equivalent to one week's holiday) recorded on your child's register.

If you have any questions about this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Chrisham on 0161 622 3200.

## STUDENT HOLIDAY PATTERN ACADEMIC YEAR 2010 / 2011

The following holiday pattern has now been agreed by the Governors for the next academic year.	
Opening Dates	Closing Dates
Thursday 2nd September 2010	Thursday 21st October 2010
Monday 1st November 2010	Friday 17th December 2010
Thursday 6th January 2011	Friday 18th February 2011
Monday 28th February 2011	Friday 8th April 2011
Tuesday 26th April 2011	Friday 27th May 2011
Monday 6th June 2011	Friday 22nd July 2011

**Monday 2nd May 2011 school will close for the May Day bank holiday**

Please note that school will be **closed to students** on the following day for staff training:

- **Friday 26th November 2010**