



The Radclyffe School
"Working Together for Excellence"



MAY 2025

NEWSLETTER



IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE



Year 11 GCSE exams are well underway

Year 11 Boys lift the Oldham Schools Trophy

The Radclyffe School joins the Cranmer Education Trust

Mental Health Awareness Week

The STEM On Track team are test day ready

Students quiz Lord Mott

Important dates for your diary

The Radclyffe Round Up

... and more!

As May comes to an end, we're incredibly proud of how our Year 11 students have taken their GCSEs in their stride. Their dedication and preparation have been impressive, and we're confident that all their hard work will continue to pay off in the weeks ahead.

It's been a busy and inspiring time here at The Radclyffe School, filled with achievements and memorable moments. We're excited to see what the coming months hold and look forward to sharing more successes and opportunities with our school community.



STEM ON TRACK

We had a brilliant and rewarding day at Whilton Mill with STEM On Track earlier in May. Despite some early traffic challenges, our team showed impressive determination and strong teamwork throughout the day.

They successfully earned licences, completed scrutineering, and carried out practice laps, resulting in a thoroughly successful and productive test session for everyone involved.

The group meets regularly at the lunchtime club to build and maintain their kart kits as part of the STEM On Track programme, which combines hands-on construction, learning through extensive online STEM courses, and racing experience.

This immersive initiative gives students a fantastic opportunity to develop practical skills and deepen their understanding of STEM in an engaging, real-world setting.

Now we look ahead to the Grand Final taking place in Northampton on Saturday 14th June.



STUDENTS TAKE CENTRE STAGE IN Q&A WITH LORD MOTT



Students from the Quality of Education and Equality & Diversity teams took part in a special Q&A session with Lord Mott. They posed a range of insightful and challenging questions, with one from Faizan that was described by Lord Mott as one of the most difficult he has ever received!

Impressed by the maturity and quality of their contributions, Lord Mott has now invited the group to join his research project on Votes at 16. This is a remarkable recognition of their engagement and leadership.

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK

As part of #MentalHealthAwarenessWeek, we held a lunchtime charity stall to raise money for the Mental Health Foundation, offering accessories with positive messages. It was fantastic to see so many students getting involved, with lots asking for the stall to return!

We also took the opportunity to shine a spotlight on the brilliant range of extracurricular clubs that run throughout the year, from safe space societies to mindful colouring, drama, music, and more. These are great ways to support wellbeing and build a sense of community. Posters were displayed around school with helpful advice, tips, and helplines.



YEAR 11 LIFT THE OLDHAM SCHOOLS TROPHY

Congratulations to our Year 11 boys' football team, who secured a well-deserved victory in the final of the 2025 Oldham Schools Plate Trophy.

Facing off against a strong North Chadderton side at Avro FC's ground, the team were 4-2 down during the second half but refused to give up. With goals from Josh, Ozan, and two impressive goals from Max, who was later named Man of the Match, Radclyffe pulled level at 4-4, taking the game to penalties.

Both sides converted all five of their allocated spot kicks, and it was Caleb who stepped up and coolly slotted the winning penalty past the keeper to secure a 6-5 victory, and the trophy!

Mr Finc, the team coach, says: "This team has been a pleasure to coach for the last 5 years and they deserved to win some silverware, especially in their final year together as a team."

Congratulations once again. Your hard work and determination have made us proud.



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SHARING THE ILLUSION OF LIFE

This month, our Poetry Club have been coming together to work on a beautiful new display in the school library, inspired by *The Illusion of Life*, a poem written by Mirfa and developed by the whole group.

Exploring the cycle of life through the changing seasons and the image of a tree, the students brought the poem to life with handmade flowers and snowflakes, each representing a different time of year.

It's wonderful to see a poem take physical form - a powerful way to deepen its impact on the reader. We're excited to see this thoughtful and creative project develop.

GROWING RADCLYFFE ROOTS

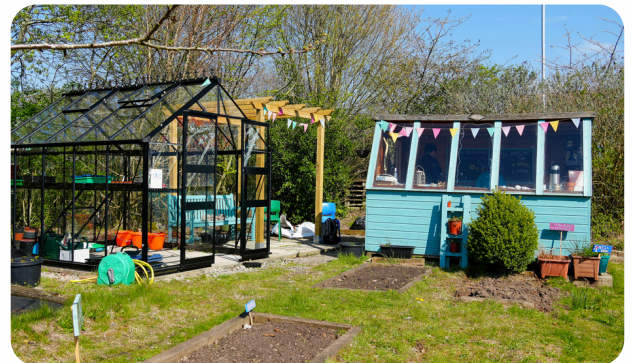
We recently spent some time in Radclyffe Roots, our much-loved school garden, reflecting on all that it offers to our school and the exciting plans we have for its future.

As a calm, green space in the heart of the school, the garden provides a peaceful environment for students to relax and recharge. It's also used as a setting for therapeutic sessions, offering a quiet and nurturing space to support wellbeing. From mindfulness to conversation, the natural surroundings help create a calming atmosphere for reflection and personal growth.

The garden is also home to our Gardening Club (more to come on that soon – watch this space!), and we're proud of how this area continues to evolve as both a wellbeing resource and a hands-on learning hub.

Now that spring has finally arrived, we're ready to breathe new life into the garden. With fresh ideas, plenty of enthusiasm, and a shared vision for what's possible, we're looking forward to making the most of this special space.

With so much potential, we can't wait to get growing!



TRS JOINS THE CRANMER EDUCATION TRUST

We are pleased to share that from 1st May 2025, The Radclyffe School formally joined The Cranmer Education Trust.

The Trust is a family of 10 schools (five secondary and five primary) across Rochdale and Oldham, all supported by a strong teacher training and development arm.

Although the 1st was the official date of academisation, we had been working closely with the Trust for some time as part of our preparations.

We want to reassure families that this change will not affect the everyday experience of our students. The Radclyffe School will continue to operate with the same name, uniform, ethos and identity. There will be no changes to the school's term or holiday dates, and all staff have transferred to The Cranmer Education Trust.

Your child will continue to be supported by the same teachers and support staff. Communication with the school should continue as usual.

A local governing committee is now in place, with appointments ratified by the Trust Board. These will be published on the school website shortly. We are pleased to confirm that Mrs Webb remains as Chair of Governors and Mr Fowle continues as Vice-Chair.

We look forward to continuing to work together to ensure the very best provision and opportunities for our students. We are proud to now be part of both Team Radclyffe and Team Cranmer.



YEAR 7 TAKE FIRST PLACE IN CYBER CHALLENGE



A huge well done to our Year 7 students who took part in the MEGAHUB event at Oldham College this month. It's a brilliant programme that inspires pupils to explore and excel in tech-based challenges!

Following in the footsteps of our Year 8 and 9 students who took part in the programme earlier this academic year, they competed in a Cyber Challenge against four other schools.

We're thrilled to share that Group A secured 1st place! All students were a real credit to the school. Well done to everyone involved.

THE RADCLYFFE ROUND-UP: NEWS AT A GLANCE

REHEARSALS UNDERWAY



The Addams Family have arrived at TRS, and rehearsals are in full swing for our school production next month. Students (and staff!) are working hard to bring this spooky and fun show to life. Performances will take place in June and ticket information is coming soon!

A NEW LEASE OF LIFE



As the school year draws closer, why not donate outgrown uniform to our Uniform Exchange Project? Drop your clean, good-condition items (shirts, trousers, skirts, ties, blazers) at the Visitor Reception. All donated items will be cleaned and sorted, ready to be rehomed.

Your small act can make a big difference to TRS families and the planet.

YEAR 8 SCHOLARS

Year 8 students attended their second Scholars Programme session at Blue Coat School, developing their skills in presenting, debating and researching energy resources. Pupils from Years 7-9 take part in this programme proudly representing The Radclyffe School alongside peers from local schools.



WORDS OF WISDOM

We were delighted to welcome Father Phil Sumner from The Parish of Our Lady and St Patrick, Oldham, to speak in school assemblies. He offered reflections on the meaning of Easter and shared a powerful message about resilience and inner strength.



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CURIOUS AND CRITICAL

One of our Year 9 classes recently enjoyed a virtual meeting with Baroness Garden of Frognal during a Personal Development session. The students asked thoughtful questions about the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill, which demonstrated curiosity and critical thinking.



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THE RADCLYFFE ROUND-UP: NEWS AT A GLANCE

POWERFUL PERFORMANCES


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GCSE Drama students delivered powerful performances of Medea by Splendid Productions as part of their practical scripted PPE for Component 2 this month.

Using Epic Theatre techniques, they explored themes of discrimination, toxic masculinity, betrayal and revenge with maturity and creativity. A brilliant effort from all involved!

REMEMBERING THE TWENTY-TWO

This year marks the eighth anniversary of the terror attack at Manchester Arena. The Radclyffe School remembers the 22 people who tragically lost their lives, and stands with all those in the community who were affected. One way we do this is through the permanent fixture of our Bee of Hope, Community and Respect in the school grounds. The sculpture created by TRS students with artist Barry Spence for Bee in the City 2018.


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RADCLYFFE RECOMMENDS

It can be a struggle to find books for young adults that they find engaging and which encourage them to get away from a screen! We wanted to take the opportunity to recommend some of our favourite choices in the library that we can't keep on the shelves and should appeal to even the most reluctant of reader.



Title and Author: The Cruel Prince by Holly Black

Recommended for lovers of: A Court of Thorns and Roses, Red Queen, Red Rising

Genre: Fantasy, Adventure, Politics

Age range: 13+

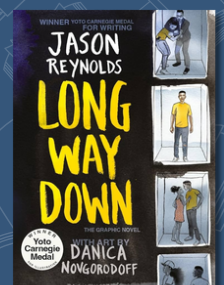
The first book in 'The Folk of the Air' series, the novel centres on Jude: a mortal girl who finds herself living in the cruel and dangerous court of the faeries. This series is a perfect introduction to any child who is starting to enjoy magical worlds and exploring mythological themes. Whilst lovers of fantasy will be drawn to the layered world building, political drama and rich universe, teenagers will also relate to the more human themes of friendship, family loyalty and feeling like an outsider.

Title and Author: Long Way Down (Graphic Novel) by Jason Reynolds

Recommended for lovers of: Ghost Boys and Gotham

Genre: Crime, Revenge, Supernatural

Age range: 14+



William Holdman is seeking revenge for the murder of his older brother, Shawn. This is a powerful and brilliant story for any young person who is struggling to process and put into words feelings of grief and anger. The original novel is a beautiful work of verse and poetry; but the graphic novel helps illustrate the emotions and message of this tale for younger and less confident readers. Themes of poverty, violence and prejudice are explored; but in a way that is relatable to teenagers and opens up for conversation about the darker aspects of the world around us that can be difficult to talk about.

If you need help or advice with choosing books for home, please don't hesitate to contact the library team!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

JUNE 2025

2 Y7&8 ASSESSMENTS START

6 EID AL-ADHA 

10 YOUNG MUSICIAN OF THE YEAR 

12 Y7&8 ASSESSMENTS END

16 YEAR 7 TO 10 REWARDS TRIPS

18 YEAR 11 EXAMS END 

19 YEAR 9 INDUSTRY DAY

24 NEW PARENTS EVENING 

30 SCHOOL PRODUCTION WEEK 

30 WORK EXPERIENCE WEEK

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PROUD TO BE PART OF
Cranmer
Education Trust

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