



The Radclyffe School
"Working Together for Excellence"



OCTOBER 2025

NEWSLETTER



IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE



Introducing The Radclyffe Scoop:
By the students, for the students

Announcing our STEM on Track
partnership for 25/26

Exploring futures at TRS

Sporting successes

Together for mental health

Inspiring readers every day

Important dates for your diary

Why attendance matters

... and more!

In this issue, we're celebrating the incredible achievements of our students, sharing key updates from around the school, and spotlighting the many exciting activities that have brought our community together.

From powerful performances in Drama and innovative creations in Design and Technology, to outstanding accomplishments in Sport and the adventurous spirit of our Duke of Edinburgh participants, there's so much to be proud of. We're also shining a light on literacy successes, enrichment opportunities, and the creative energy that continues to thrive in every department.

October has truly showcased the dedication, passion, and teamwork that make The Radclyffe School such a vibrant and inspiring place to learn and grow.



GOT SOMETHING YOU WANT TO SHARE WITH US?
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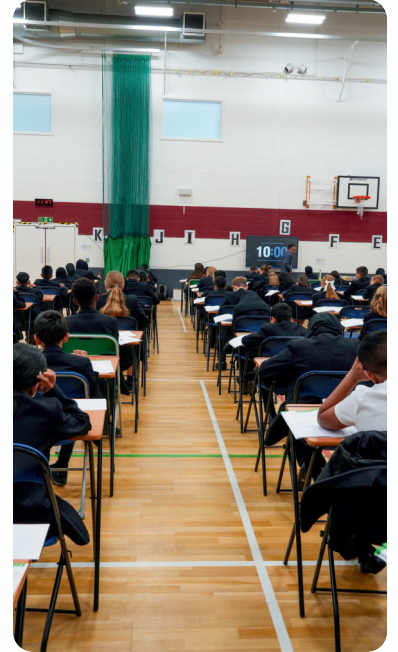
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DISCOVERING HOW STUDENTS LEARN

Last month, Year 7 students sat their CAT4 assessments, the Cognitive Abilities Test that helps teachers understand how each student learns best and what their academic potential could be.

Unlike traditional tests that focus solely on core subjects, CAT4 provides a broader, more rounded view of each child, highlighting how they think and learn.

The results will support our teachers in tailoring learning, ensuring every student receives the right pace, challenge and support to thrive. Well done to all our Year 7s for their focus and effort.



PEER MENTORS IN ACTION

The Peer Mentor team at TRS are inspiring student leaders, supporting their peers while embodying our school values.

The team are trained to guide and assist in a variety of situations, from Year 6 transition days to everyday school life.

Recently, they played a key role during Open Evening, acting as tour guides and helping prospective families feel welcome. Their professionalism and friendliness made a great impression, and we received glowing feedback about how approachable and knowledgeable they were.

Being a Peer Mentor is about more than helping others, it's about leading by example. Our students show responsibility, respect, and kindness, making a positive difference in the school community every day. We are incredibly proud of the Peer Mentor team.

STUDENTS TAKE PRIDE IN ENVIRONMENT

This month, the Student Behaviour and Safety Team joined Mrs Bott and Mrs Richardson for a litter pick, collecting over five bags of rubbish in just 20 minutes.

The team meets at least once each term and leads projects that promote responsibility, respect, and community spirit. They are currently preparing assemblies for Welcome and Wellbeing Time, focusing on good citizenship in November and road safety later in the term.

The amount of litter collected reminds us how quickly it can accumulate. Bins for general waste and recycling are available throughout school, including in Café Mojo, and everyone is encouraged to use them. These efforts are part of a wider plan to encourage positive behaviour and care for the environment.



A DAY OF ADVENTURE FOR YEAR 7

At the end of September our Year 7 students enjoyed an exciting trip to Linnet Clough Scout Camp and Activity Centre.

The visit provided a brilliant opportunity for our newest members of the school community to build relationships with their PLGs and staff while taking part in a variety of activities.

Students challenged themselves on the climbing wall and the cube, explored the cave bus, and completed orienteering tasks.

They also enjoyed activities such as laser tag, football darts, and frisbee golf. With so many different experiences on offer, there was something for everyone to enjoy!

The day was full of fun and teamwork, giving students the chance to develop confidence, collaboration, and a sense of belonging as they settled into life at TRS. It was a fantastic start to the year and a reminder of the exciting opportunities that lie ahead for our Year 7 students.

STEM ON TRACK PARTNERSHIP

We're excited to announce a partnership with Diodes Inc. for this year's STEM On Track project. Diodes, a global semiconductor leader, will support the school through its nearby Chadderton site, strengthening links between local industry and education.

STEM On Track is a national challenge for KS3 and KS4 students, giving them the chance to design, build, and race electric karts while learning about STEM. Thanks to Diodes' sponsorship, our club is constructing two karts: The Apex Radclyffe Racers and The ThunderVolts. Students meet weekly to assemble components, design visuals, and ensure race standards are met. Engineers and apprentices from Diodes will assist the teams, offering practical guidance and insights into real-world STEM careers.

"Their engineers will make a huge impact, helping our students see the practical side of science and engineering while boosting confidence and teamwork," said Mr Brown, Head of Design Technology.

The teams are now finalising their kart designs before competing at Test Days and the National Finals, racing against schools nationwide. With Diodes' support, students are building more than karts, they're building confidence, teamwork, and a passion for STEM.



INSPIRATION FROM FORMER STUDENTS

We were thrilled to welcome former TRS students Nilima and Jordan, Class of 2025, back to school during our recent Careers Fair to share their experiences at Blue Coat Sixth Form.

It was amazing to see how much they've grown in such a short time and to hear their reflections on the opportunities and challenges they've encountered since leaving The Radclyffe School.

Our current students were eager to ask questions, gain advice, and learn more about future education pathways. Thank you Nilima and Jordan for giving your time and inspiring the next generation of students!

EXPLORING FUTURES AT TRS

Year 9 and 11 students took part in our Careers Fair, helping them to make informed choices about their GCSE options and future education pathways after leaving school.

We were joined by a fantastic range of local employers and education providers, including Blue Coat Sixth Form, Oldham Sixth Form College, Oldham College, LWC Drinks, Ryder & Dutton Estate Agents, Greater Manchester Police, Diodes Incorporated, Oldham Coliseum Theatre, Football Futures and many more.

A huge thank you to all who attended and to our dedicated Personal Development and Careers Teams for organising this important part of the curriculum at The Radclyffe School.



WHY ATTENDANCE MATTERS AT THE RADCLYFFE SCHOOL

At The Radclyffe School, our attendance is currently above the national average, and we are proud of the effort our students make every day to be in school and ready to learn. Every lesson matters, and every day helps build a stronger foundation for success. Here are just some of the ways that good attendance benefits our students:

- Students with excellent attendance are almost twice as likely to achieve a grade 5 or higher in GCSE English and Maths compared to those who miss just 10 extra days a year.
- Frequent absence can lead to gaps in knowledge that make it harder to catch up, especially in a critical year like Year 11.
- Regular school attendance helps students develop crucial skills such as time management, responsibility, and teamwork.
- Punctuality and reliability are highly valued in the workplace. Consistent school attendance teaches students the importance of these attributes for future careers.
- Good attendance can improve future earning potential and open doors to more opportunities after leaving us, including college or university admissions.
- Attending school regularly allows students to form friendships, build valuable connections with peers and teachers, and feel more a part of the school community.



The Radclyffe School

"Working Together for Excellence"



EVERY DAY COUNTS AT THE RADCLYFFE SCHOOL









TRS TAEKWONDO CHAMPION

We are thrilled to congratulate Ammar in Year 7, who won a silver medal in his weight class at the Taekwondo British Championships in October. The two-day event, held at the English Institute of Sport in Sheffield, brought together talented athletes from across the country.

Ammar's dedication, skill, and sportsmanship were on full display, and this impressive achievement is a testament to his hard work and commitment to the sport. We are incredibly proud of him and can't wait to see how his Taekwondo journey continues in the future. Well done, Ammar!

BRONZE SUCCESS FOR YEAR 11

We are very proud to share the achievements of our Year 11 students who have successfully completed their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award!

This accomplishment reflects their dedication, perseverance, and teamwork. Throughout the programme, students have shown great enthusiasm by volunteering in the community, developing new skills, staying active, and tackling challenging expeditions.

Certificates and badges were proudly presented by Mr Cregg, joined by their Head of Year Mr Lunt, who praised the students for their determination and commitment. Their success is an inspiration to younger pupils, showing what can be achieved through hard work and a positive attitude.

Their achievements truly embody the spirit and character of The Radclyffe School. We commend every participant for their effort and enthusiasm and look forward to seeing how they continue to build on this success in the future.



INSPIRING READERS EVERY DAY AT THE RADCLYFFE SCHOOL



This month we marked National Libraries Week, and at The Radclyffe School we are proud to celebrate the people and the place that bring reading to life for our students every day. Our dedicated library team brings decades of experience to their roles, from almost twenty years as Librarian to seventeen years supporting students, as well as the perspective of a former student who returned to school to join the team.

Each team member has a book that inspired their love of reading, from *Stig of the Dump* to *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time*. They enjoy sharing that passion with students, helping reluctant readers find stories that capture their imagination and build confidence.

The library is a busy, welcoming space which is open every break and lunchtime. Students can borrow two books at a time, one levelled to their ability and one for pleasure, and explore seasonal displays, recommendations, and new releases. Guided reading sessions and targeted support ensure that students not only read but also reflect and understand the books they choose.

We thank Mrs Hamilton, Mrs Wild, Miss Rumi, and Mrs Crewe for nurturing the joy of reading and making the library such a special hub of curiosity and support for all our students.

YEAR 10 NETBALL SUCCESS

A huge well done to our Year 10 Netball team, who came 3rd in the Oldham Schools Netball Tournament this month! The girls put in a fantastic effort, winning against The Oldham Academy North, drawing with Brian Clarke and Hulme Grammar, and narrowly losing to Brian Clarke A.

We are so proud of how much they've progressed since Year 7. Their commitment to training every Monday and Tuesday really showed in their performance.

A special mention goes to our captains, Harriet and Grace, whose leadership earned praise from other schools, and congratulations to Harriet for being named Girl of the Tournament. We can't wait to see what they achieve in the league later this season!



TOGETHER FOR MENTAL HEALTH AT TRS



To mark World Mental Health Day, students shared how they look after their mental health on colourful cards during PLG time. Our Health and Wellbeing Student Leadership Team then turned them into a Mood Mosaic, displayed in the heart of the school.

It's been inspiring to read the thoughtful messages and wonderful to see so many stopping by to reflect on what their peers have shared.

We are committed to being a caring and supportive community, where the wellbeing of every student is at the heart of all we do.

POETRY IN PLAY FOR KS3

In October we marked National Poetry Day, and KS3 students were set the challenge of writing their own poems based on this year's theme of 'Play'. We were absolutely amazed by the talent, originality and enthusiasm shown by our students. Each poem captured the spirit of playfulness in a unique and inspiring way.

A huge well done to all participants, and a special congratulations to the winners and runners-up from each year group. Your work truly made us proud!



A WINNING START FOR YEAR 7!

This month our Year 7 football team played their first match against Waterhead Academy and came away with an impressive 5-1 victory.

There were some outstanding performances from Shay, Evan and Aariz, who showed great teamwork, determination and skill throughout the game.

Well done, boys, what a fantastic start to the season!

DRAMA CLUB SHINES IN NEW ENSEMBLE PROJECT

Year 7 and 8 Drama Club have made a fantastic start on their new ensemble project! Under Mrs Payne's direction, students are already bringing their characters to life, with each having a speaking role.

They are collaborating with the Oldham Performing Arts Network to perform at the Secondary Schools Drama Festival next February.

They have recently been focussing on ensemble work and rehearsing their first lines, quickly adapting and supporting one another.



DEVISING PERFORMANCES

Our Year 9 and 10 Drama Club students had an inspiring session last week after school with Faz and Billy from Oldham Theatre Workshop as part of the Satellite Project.

They explored devising techniques, and experimented with movement, voice, and storytelling to create original material that truly reflects their ideas and teamwork. Parents will have the chance to see this exciting work in November, when all year groups share their performances in school.



STEM ON TRACK TAKES OFF!

This half term, the D+T department launched the 2025/26 STEM on Track programme, welcoming 30 talented students in two teams: Radclyffe Apex Racers and Radclyffe ThunderVolts.

After unboxing their go-karts, the teams began the build and learn modules, focusing on axle bearings, brake discs, axles, and the steering column, putting their STEM skills into action. A big thanks to Diodes Incorporated for their support!



THE RADCLYFFE SCOOP



BY THE STUDENTS, FOR THE STUDENTS

TRAVEL

Summer might be over, but that doesn't mean we can't plan our next trips.

Recommendations

- 1 Korea
- 2 Thailand
- 3 Türkiye
- 4 Japan
- 5 Argentina
- 6 Qatar
- 7 Spain
- 8 Pakistan
- 9 Brazil
- 10 Morocco

Our advice

Always use the original menu, as tourist prices can be inflated.

Ceremonial grade matcha is not always legitimate.

Instead, experience making your own mochi and matcha, and take traditional cooking classes.

Never go to over hyped places as they are often tourist traps.

Try authentic and family owned restaurants.

INTRODUCING THE SCOOP

We are excited to announce a brand new feature in our school newsletter: The Radclyffe Scoop! Written by the students, for the students, this exciting addition is the creative voice of the school's very own Journalism and Digital Media Club.

Once a half term, The Radclyffe Scoop will bring you engaging content straight from your peers, from useful advice and handy study tips to fun seasonal pieces, school updates, trivia, and more.

It is a space for students to share their ideas, opinions, and creativity, while keeping everyone informed and entertained.

The club came together to name The Radclyffe Scoop, aiming to create something fresh, relevant, and truly student driven. We hope it becomes something you look forward to reading each term, a reflection of the talent, enthusiasm, and community spirit that makes The Radclyffe School so special.



MUSIC AND GAME RECOMMENDATIONS

Music

- Sweet Caroline - Neil Diamond
- Mystical Magical - Benson Boone
- All Star - Smash Mouth
- Live and Learn - Sonic
- City Escape - Sonic
- Shake it Off - Taylor Swift
- Blank Space - Taylor Swift

Games

- Hollow Knight Silksong
- Hollow Knight
- Deltarune
- Undertale
- Sonic Games
- Sonic Racing Cross Worlds
- Mario Kart World

NEXT TIME

In the next edition of The Radclyffe Scoop, we'll be sharing some more student favourites, as well as information on the range of clubs we offer at The Radclyffe School!



OCTOBER FOLKLORE

October is rich with stories, celebrations, and old traditions, especially in British and Irish folklore. Many trace back to European festivals marking the change of seasons. From ancient rituals to mysterious tales, October has always carried a touch of magic.

Samhain

The Celtic festival of Samhain (*pronounced Sow-in*) is at the heart of October folklore. It is celebrated from October 31st to November 1st, and marks the end of the harvest and the beginning of winter. It revolves around the idea that during this time, the veil between the living and the dead is the thinnest.

To honour the dead, the Celts would light bonfires to guide spirits and set places at the dinner table for deceased loved ones who were thought to return and visit their homes.

Hunter's Moon

The Hunter's Moon is the first full moon after the Harvest Moon. Its name comes from old traditions when hunters prepared for winter by tracking animals and preserving meat. The moon's bright light through the night helped them with their work.

It often has a red or orange glow because it sits lower in the sky. It is also known as the "Travel Moon" and the "Dying Grass Moon."

Other Folklore

Birthstones are an important part of folklore. October's birthstone is the Opal, which symbolizes faithfulness and confidence.

October also has two birth flowers: the Cosmos, which represents joy, and the Calendula, which stands for grace and success.

There are also some goddesses linked to October. The month is associated with earth and fertility goddesses like Pachamama and the Greek goddess of autumn, Autumna.

SEASONAL RECOMMENDATIONS



Coraline



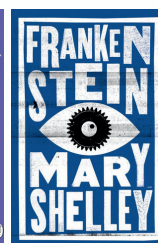
The Graveyard Book



The Witches



The Worst Witch



Frankenstein

BOOKS

FILMS



Hocus Pocus



The Corpse Bride



The Nightmare Before Christmas



Monster House



TRIVIA

What family does Wednesday belong to?

A: The Incredibles B: The Weasleys C: The Addams

Who wrote the book Coraline?

A: Tim Burton B: Steven King C: Neil Gaiman

What is Tim Burton's most famous movie by box office earnings?

A: Alice in Wonderland B: Batman C: Beetlejuice



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



NOVEMBER 2025

- 3** INSET DAY
- 4** STUDENTS RETURN TO SCHOOL
- 6** FLU VACCINES FOR STUDENTS
- 11** REMEMBRANCE DAY
- 13** YEAR 7 PLG EVENING
- 14** COLLEGE APPLICATION DEADLINE
- 17** YEAR 11 PPES START
- 20** GCSE PRESENTATION EVENING

DECEMBER 2025

- 4** YEAR 7 INDUSTRY DAY
- 18** YEAR 11 PPE RESULTS EVENT
- 19** STUDENTS FINISH - END OF TERM



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