



The Radclyffe School
 "Working Together for Excellence"



MARCH 2026

NEWSLETTER



IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE

Uniform consultation request

Year 9 Options Evening

World Book Day at TRS

Cultural Celebrations

Staff vs students showdown

Promoting a love of reading

The Radclyffe Scoop Vol. III

... and more!

In this edition, we're celebrating the achievements, creativity, and community spirit of our students over the last few weeks of term. From Year 9 Options Evening and supporting students in planning their next steps, to exciting transition events for our incoming Year 7 students, including National Offer Day and a virtual Q&A for parents and carers, there has been plenty to inspire and inform.

Our stages have been alive with drama, with KS3 students performing at the Oldham Theatre Workshop and rehearsals kicking off for The SpongeBob Musical (Youth Edition), while bookish fun has continued with World Book Day, the launch of our sponsored ReadOlympics, and creative reading challenges. We've also celebrated caring in our community with Eid events, explored curiosity and discovery during British Science Week, and enjoyed a lively staff vs student netball showdown.

This term has been packed with activity that truly reflects the energy, talent, and community spirit that make The Radclyffe School such an inspiring place to learn, grow, and thrive.



GOT SOMETHING YOU WANT TO SHARE WITH US?
marketing@theradcliffeschool.co.uk



KS3 SHINE ON STAGE WITH KING OF THE TREES TRIUMPH

Our KS3 Drama Club recently took to the stage at the Oldham Performing Arts Network Youth Theatre Festival, delivering a fantastic performance of King of the Trees. Following weeks of dedicated rehearsals and creative development, it was wonderful to see the piece come to life in front of an audience.

Our Year 7 and Year 8 students demonstrated impressive confidence, energy, and teamwork throughout the performance. Every student played a speaking role, and the combination of dynamic movement and imaginative storytelling ensured the piece was engaging from start to finish. The students represented the school brilliantly, showcasing not only their growing drama skills but also their commitment and creativity.

We are incredibly proud of what they have achieved and are grateful to the Oldham Performing Arts Network for their support in helping bring this performance to fruition.



STUDENT VOICES



"King of the Trees was A GREAT SHOW!"

We practised it for about 4 months, and it turned out amazing.

We used our creative skills and our talents to the best of our ability.

We performed at Oldham Theatre Workshop which was an amazing experience, though very nerve-racking when we first arrived."



Photo credit: Oldham Theatre Workshop



"Something I think that we could improve for next time would be working more closely with the others in the scene so that we remember when to perform a certain action."

WHAT'S NEXT FOR YEAR 9?

Our Year 9 Options Evening in March was a fantastic opportunity for students and families to begin planning for the next stage of their education.

The evening allowed students to meet teachers, explore new subjects, and gather the information they need to make confident choices about their future pathways. It was wonderful to see so many engaged students and supportive families taking part in the event.

Following the evening, Year 9 students took part in taster sessions and met with members of the Senior Leadership and Management Team during the school day for further guidance and advice as they finalised their decisions.



**THE OPTIONS PORTAL IS NOW
OPEN AND CLOSSES AT 11:59PM
ON SUNDAY 12TH APRIL**



SPONGEBOB HITS THE STAGE

We are delighted to be bringing The SpongeBob Musical (Youth Edition) to the stage at The Radclyffe School later this year.

Following an enthusiastic audition process, it has been fantastic to see our students fully embrace the opportunity, with the cast reveal creating plenty of excitement. We are especially proud to be double casting the production, allowing more students to take on principal roles alongside a strong and vibrant ensemble.

It has been particularly encouraging to see so many Year 7 students getting involved early in their time at the school. Their confidence continues to grow with each rehearsal, and it is a real pleasure to watch their talent develop.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming audiences and sharing what promises to be a fun, energetic, and memorable production.

WORLD BOOK DAY AT THE RADCLYFFE SCHOOL

We marked World Book Day in March with a brilliant day of reading, creativity and plenty of memorable costumes across the school.

Staff fully embraced the spirit of the day, arriving dressed as characters from a wide range of well-known stories. From Frodo Baggins to Dora the Explorer, Macbeth to Katniss Everdeen, and Mary Poppins to Percy Jackson, the corridors were full of familiar faces from much-loved books.

Students also spotted characters from Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, a few appearances of Wally (although we're not sure everyone managed to find them all!), and even a group of Belgian comic-book bank robbers from Lucky Luke.

The costumes quickly became a talking point around school, with students stopping staff in corridors to guess who they were meant to be and to chat about the stories behind the characters. It was a lovely way to spark conversations about books and share favourite reads.



Alongside the costumes, students enjoyed a range of activities throughout the day.

A Golden Ticket hunt gave students the chance to win a free book, while the Twisted Titles quiz challenged them to work out famous books from their mixed-up names.

In Key Stage 3 lessons, mystery readers dropped in to surprise classes with special story readings, and at lunchtime, students got creative making their own bookmarks.

It was a joyful day across the school, full of laughter, creativity and a shared love of stories.

A huge thank you to our fantastic staff for throwing themselves into the celebrations and helping bring books to life for our students.

THE BOOKISH FUN CONTINUES....

Over the half-term break, we launched our Spring Shelfie Competition. Students and staff shared a range of creative and thoughtful bookish photos, showcasing their love of reading in unique and imaginative ways. It was a real joy to see so much personality and passion on display.

A huge thank you to everyone who took part, and congratulations to our winners: Isla, Mahad, and Maimoona. A special mention also goes to Mr Barrington-Brown for his winning entry – a brilliant example of bookish creativity!

We also saw the launch of the Radclyffe ReadOlympics, a sponsored reading challenge that saw students immersing themselves in texts of their choice. Participants raised money for a range of important charities, including YoungMinds, Action Together (Oldham), and WaterAid UK. It has been wonderful to see our school community come together to celebrate reading in such an enthusiastic and meaningful way, and we are incredibly proud of their effort and enthusiasm.



RADCLYFFE RECOMMENDED READS

Our library team recommend some favourite choices that they can't keep on the shelves and should appeal to even the most reluctant of readers!



Title and Author: The Lion Above The Door by Onjali Q. Rauf
For lovers of: Historical Fiction, books featuring WW1/WW2
Age range: 11+

The story highlights the importance of recognising overlooked histories and celebrating diversity, that history belongs to everyone, and that everyone deserves to see themselves represented in it.



Title and Author: A Pinch Of Magic by Michelle Harrison
For lovers of: Magical adventures, sister stories, curses and mysteries, and fans of books like The Worst Witch or The Spiderwick Chronicles
Age range: 11+

This book teaches that love, loyalty, and believing in yourself can help overcome even the darkest magic.



Title and Author: Satellite by Nick Lake
For lovers of: Science fiction, space survival stories, character-driven adventures, and readers who enjoy thoughtful books about identity and belonging.
Age range: 12+

The book encourages readers to think about what truly makes somewhere "home" and who gets to decide our future.

COMMUNITY, CONVERSATION, AND CELEBRATION

Celebrating community spirit was at the heart of The Radclyffe School this month, as we came together to reflect, share, and connect with one another. We hosted our second annual community Iftar, welcoming students, families, staff, and guests to share food, conversation, and reflection together.

Our Head Teacher, Mr Cregg, spoke about how understanding others reflects our values of Respect, Excellence, and Kindness, while contributions from students and guest speakers highlighted the significance of faith, knowledge, and shared heritage.

After prayers, we broke our fast together, including many non-Muslim staff who had fasted during the day, enjoying a three-course meal and warm conversation. Events like these remind us of the power of generosity, kindness, and the connections that strengthen our community.



**VIEW OUR IFTAR
VIDEO HERE**



STAFF VS STUDENTS SHOWDOWN

There was a fantastic atmosphere one lunchtime this month as staff and students went head to head in a netball match for Sports Relief.

It was a brilliant game from start to finish, with students taking an impressive early 5–1 lead and showing just how talented they are. The staff team fought back in the closing moments, with Mr Waugh scoring on the final whistle to secure a dramatic 5–4 win.

The energy on the sidelines was just as impressive, with plenty of cheering and support for both teams. A huge thank you to everyone who played and everyone who came along to watch. Together, we raised an amazing £294 for Sports Relief, an excellent example of our school community coming together for a great cause.

BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK

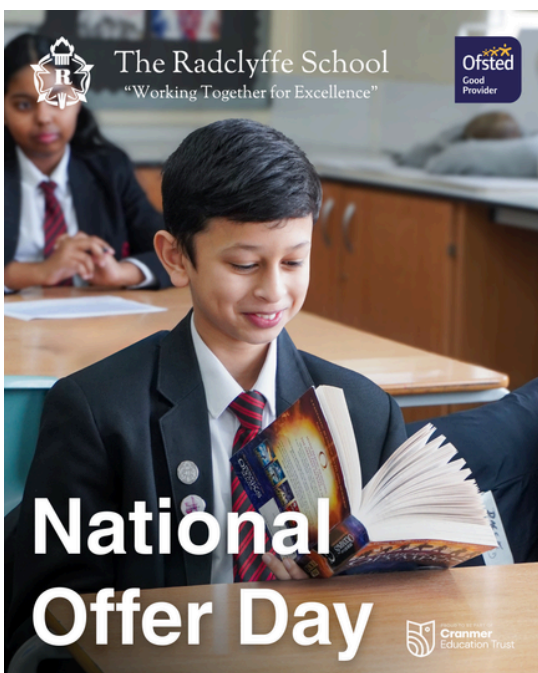
British Science Week was a real highlight in March, with students exploring the excitement and creativity of science in a range of activities.

Throughout the week, students took part in hands-on experiments, from flame tests and “Elephant Toothpaste” to making ice cream, rockets, and Non-Newtonian fluids. Classes enjoyed tailored lessons, Science Club ran demonstrations every lunchtime, and our Year 7 students took part in a “Curious Science” workshop from AS Creatives, sparking curiosity, questions, and a love of investigation.

Meanwhile, our Year 9 students had the opportunity to attend the Manchester Museum Science Fair. They explored a variety of practical science and engineering activities, from microscopy demonstrations to renewable energy challenges, discovering how materials science and innovation shape the world around us.

It was fantastic to see students engaging with science in so many ways, combining hands-on experiments, creative thinking, and teamwork.

A huge thank you to all staff, partners, and external organisations who helped make British Science Week such an inspiring experience for everyone.



NEXT CHAPTERS AT THE RADCLYFFE SCHOOL

Excitement is building as we prepare to welcome our new Year 7 students to The Radclyffe School this September!

March’s National Offer Day was an important milestone, with students receiving their places for September. We also hosted a virtual Q&A for incoming students and their parents and carers, providing guidance and answers to key questions about starting secondary school.

Keep an eye out for future transition events, which will give students more opportunities to meet staff and feel confident about joining us. For information on the appeals process, please visit the school website.

SCHOOL UNIFORM CONSULTATION

We are currently consulting with parents, carers and other stakeholders about some proposed updates to our school uniform. Our goal is to maintain our high standards, while also making uniform more affordable and accessible for all families. From our initial conversations with parents in school, we've heard some helpful and thoughtful feedback, including:

- A preference for skirts to remain at knee length
- Whether the logo option is still needed
- A desire to minimise changes where possible
- Strong support for an optional sports hijab for PE

We would really value your input as part of this process. Please take a moment to review the information provided and share your views with us.

Thank you for taking the time to complete the consultation. Your feedback will play an important role in shaping our final uniform policy for September 2026.



[CLICK HERE](#)



Please review the information and share your views with us.

The consultation form will close on Thursday 30th April 2026 at 3pm.

BEING MENINGITIS AWARE

EARLY SYMPTOMS, WHICH MAY NOT ALL ALWAYS BE PRESENT, INCLUDE:

- A rash that doesn't fade when pressed with a glass
- Sudden onset of high fever
- Severe and worsening headache
- Stiff neck
- Vomiting and diarrhoea
- Joint and muscle pain
- Dislike of bright lights
- Very cold hands and feet
- Seizures
- Confusion/delirium
- Extreme sleepiness/difficulty waking

You may have seen recent news reports about meningitis cases affecting students in other parts of the country. We understand that this may feel concerning; however, we would like to reassure you that cases of this nature are very rare, and there is **no indication of increased risk** to our local community at this time.

Meningitis is an uncommon but serious illness. Most young people receive routine vaccinations at school, which offer protection against several common strains. However, as not all types are covered, it is still important to be aware of the symptoms.

Early medical attention is very important. If you are concerned that your child may be unwell, please seek advice from your GP or NHS 111. For further information and support, you may find the following helpful:

- [NHS website](#)
- Meningitis Research Foundation (24-hour helpline: 0808 800 3344)
- Meningitis Now (helpline: 0808 80 10 388)

As always, we will continue to follow public health guidance and keep you updated if anything changes.

THE RADCLYFFE SCOOP



BY THE STUDENTS, FOR THE STUDENTS

THE MILAN OLYMPICS

The 2026 Milan Cortina Winter Olympics took place between 6 Feb- 22 February.

Contestants and athletes from 93 countries took part in various activities such as ice-skating, alpine skiing, figure skating, snowboard, bobsleighbing and biathlon.

The official standings were Netherlands in 3rd, USA in 2nd and Norway in 1st place.

Millions of people around the world watched their favourite athletes compete against others.

The Winter Olympics are a symbol of dedication, determination and sportsmanship, and the athletes are inspiring and are people to look up to.



THIS HALF TERM'S SCOOP

We're excited to present the next edition of The Radclyffe Scoop! This half-termly, student-led feature continues to showcase the creativity, ideas, and voices of our Journalism and Digital Media Club.

Each Tuesday lunchtime, the club meets to discuss ideas, collaborate, and put together pieces that reflect the wide range of interests of students across the school.

Working in groups, they explore topics from practical advice and study tips to fun stories, school updates, and seasonal features, making sure there's something for everyone.

The Radclyffe Scoop is entirely student-driven, written by students, for students. We hope this edition gives you a glimpse into the talent, enthusiasm, and community spirit that make The Radclyffe School so special.

STAFF Q&A

This month, our student team met with Mr Barrington-Brown, one of our History teachers, to ask him some questions.

What got you into teaching? I had a lot of amazing teachers when I was at school, and they taught me how powerful education can be.

What do you enjoy about this school? My fellow staff are lovely and supportive. I love the energy that students have around learning; it's something I didn't experience down south.

If there were one thing you could change in school, what would it be? Celebrating kindness more. It costs nothing and has a positive impact for both people.

If you had one thing to say to motivate someone, what would it be? Do it for your 8 year old self and 80 year old self. It is important to make your past and future self proud.

What is your favourite topic? The Industrial Revolution, because I like looking at history from the aspect of others.

What are your positive characteristics as a teacher? Being calm and kind.

ALL ABOUT LUNAR NEW YEAR

What is Lunar New Year?

Lunar New Year is a significant 15-day celebration that marks the beginning of the new year according to the lunisolar calendar, occurring between January 21 and February 20. It is primarily observed in East Asia (including China, Vietnam, Korea, and Mongolia) and among global diaspora communities. The festival symbolizes the arrival of spring, family reunions, and hopes for prosperity.

Traditions

- Red envelopes filled with money are given to children and unmarried adults to convey blessings and good fortune.
- Homes are cleaned before the New Year to eliminate bad luck from the past year and welcome the new in.
- Houses are adorned with red lanterns, paper cuttings, and "Chunlian", traditional Chinese, vertical banners written in black or gold ink on red paper, hung on both sides of doors during the Lunar New Year.
- Fireworks are set off to ward off evil spirits, such as the mythical creature "Nian."
- Dragon and Lion Dances are showcased in parades to bring good luck and prosperity to the community.

Superstitions

- Using sharp objects is believed to sever the flow of wealth and luck.
- Black and white are to be avoided as they are linked to mourning; red is favored for its associations with joy and protection.

Traditional Foods

- Dumplings - symbolise wealth.
- Fish - signifies abundance for the upcoming year.
- Nian Gao - a sticky rice cake whose name sounds like "getting higher year by year," promoting success.
- Long, uncut noodles that represent a long life.
- Tang Yuan - sweet rice balls enjoyed during the Lantern Festival, symbolizing family togetherness.



THE "BRONTË BIT"

Charlotte Brontë is an English poet and author who was born in 1816 in Thornton, Yorkshire. You may have also heard about her sisters, Emily and Anne. Charlotte is most famous for her books *Jane Eyre* and *Villette*.

Early on in her career Charlotte and her sisters published a book of poems. However, due to gender-related laws in the 1800s, all three sisters had to publish the book under different, male, names.

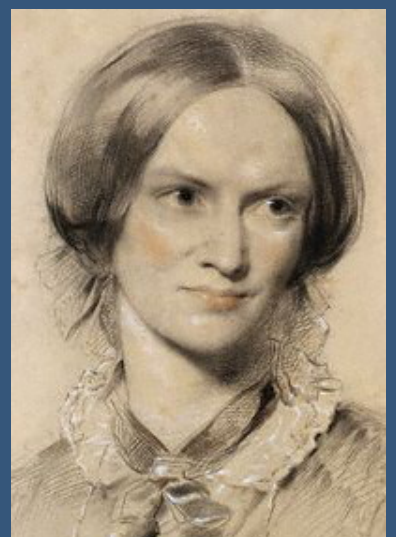
These were Currer Bell, Ellis Bell and Acton Bell. They all used the first initial of their actual names, but they swapped Brontë for Bell, so no one found out their identity.

Sadly, this poem book was unsuccessful and only sold two copies in the first year.

In 1847, Charlotte, who was going by Currer, wrote her book *Jane Eyre*. The story follows a young girl who was orphaned and raised by her cruel aunt and became relentlessly bullied by her cousins. Eventually, she becomes the governess of Edward Rochester's children and falls in love with Rochester who has a secret, which Jane only discovers on their wedding day.

In June of 1854 Charlotte married Arthur Nicholls. Sadly, they were only married for one year, before Charlotte contracted tuberculosis and died at the age of 38.

This famous author's legacy lives on through her books which she republished under her actual name. She also did this for her sisters who sadly passed earlier on.



FOUR FAVOURITE FILMS



Title: Little Women (2019)

Age rating: PG

Themes: Feminism, artistic ambition and family. This film powerfully portrays the reality of how women were treated during the 1860s.

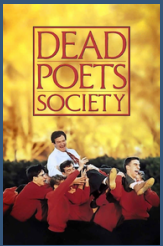
Favourite quote: "Women, they have minds, and they have souls, as well as just hearts."



Title: The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring (2001) **Age rating:** 12A

Themes: Friendship and fellowship, good vs evil and the corrupting influence of power. This film communicates real life issues in a fantasy, adventure format to show the influence of power and how it can easily corrupt people.

Favourite quote: "All we have to decide is what to do with the time that is given to us."

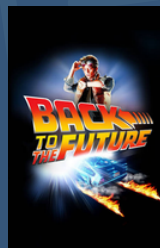


Title: Dead Poets Society (1989)

Age rating: 12

Themes: Rebellion and passion, conformity vs individuality and the importance of friendship. This film shows the power of literature and how it can change people's lives.

Favourite quote: "We read and write poetry because we are members of the human race."



Title: Dead Poets Society (1989)

Age rating: 12

Themes: Courage vs fear, confidence, family and time manipulation. This film shows the reality of time travel and how it can destroy the future using comedy to combat the serious subjects.

Favourite quote: "If you put your mind to it, you can accomplish anything."

CONSIDERING CLIMATE CHANGE AT TRS

What is climate change?

Climate change is the long-term, significant shifts in global or regional temperatures and weather patterns.

What causes climate change?

Climate change is caused by human activities along with natural events. These acts include polluting the environment and the burning of fossil fuels. Although some natural causes can cause climate change (volcanoes releasing dangerous chemicals and greenhouse gases into the atmosphere), human activities contribute the most to climate change to this day.

How can we prevent climate change?

We have the power to cut down on activities that harm the climate. While people can sometimes be a bit careless, our school has a chance to kickstart a wave of positive actions by organising litter clean-ups. This wouldn't just make our school look nicer, but it would also highlight the importance of these efforts, inspiring everyone to get involved in activities that help our planet and community. Making the world a better place would really boost everyone's quality of life.

ALL THINGS COLOUR THEORY

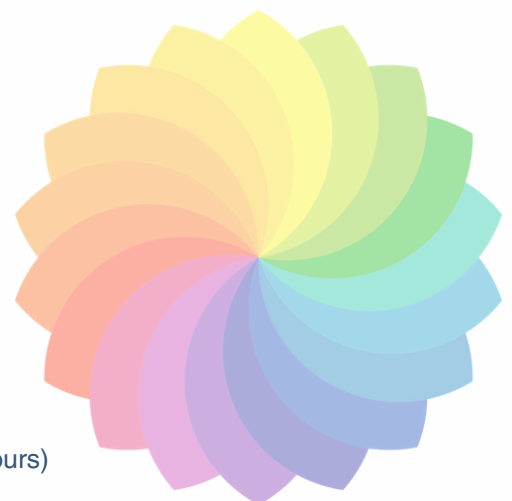
Colour Theory explores human perception of colors, which are often illusions of fractured light. Different colours evoke specific emotions: yellow for joy, blue for sadness, and red for anger. Using appropriate colours enhances visual appeal and elicits audience reactions.

Colours are usually sorted into 3 categories.

Primary: Red, yellow and blue (cannot be created from mixing)

Secondary: Green, orange and purple (can be created from mixing primary colours)

Tertiary: Made by mixing a primary and secondary colour





MARCH 2026

27 SCHOOL CLOSURES - END OF TERM

APRIL 2026

13 SCHOOL REOPENS

13 Y11 ART & PHOTOGRAPHY EXAMS BEGIN FOR TWO WEEKS

16 YEAR 8 PARENTS EVENING

20 YEAR 10 PPES BEGIN

24 GCSE DRAMA THEATRE VISIT

24 MFL SPEAKING EXAMS START

MAY 2026

01 YEAR 10 PPES END

01 MFL SPEAKING EXAMS END

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



The Radclyffe School
"Working Together for Excellence"

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