



The Radclyffe School
 "Working Together for Excellence"



MAY 2026

NEWSLETTER



IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE



STEM On Track Test Day

Faith in Oldham Returns

Mental Health Awareness Week

Sporting Success

Recommended Reads at TRS

SpongeBob Rehearsals Begin

Book of Excellence Celebration

... and more!

This edition celebrates another incredibly busy and successful month at The Radclyffe School, with students continuing to demonstrate creativity, resilience and community spirit across all areas of school life.

From national STEM competitions at Whilton Mill Circuit and inspiring Faith in Oldham discussions, to Duke of Edinburgh adventures in Saddleworth and student leadership work with local primary pupils, there have been so many opportunities for students to challenge themselves beyond the classroom and develop valuable lifelong skills.

Across the arts, students have impressed through drama projects, musical rehearsals and the continuing success of The Radclyffe Scoop, while our love of reading and student voice has continued to shine through recommended reads, creative writing and journalism work. We've also celebrated sporting success, recognised student achievements through our Book of Excellence event, marked Mental Health Awareness Week together, and supported our Year 11 students as they reach the important milestones of GCSE exams.

As always, this newsletter reflects the energy, talent and kindness that make The Radclyffe School such a positive and inspiring community to be part of.



PUTTING STEM SKILLS TO THE TEST AT NATIONAL MOTORSPORT EVENT

In May, students travelled to Whilton Mill Circuit in Northampton to take part in the official STEM On Track test day, joining around 100 schools from across the country for an exciting day of engineering and motorsport.

Representing TRS teams Apex and ThunderVolts, students tested and prepared their karts as part of the national programme, which uses motorsport to inspire young people to explore careers in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM).

Throughout the day, students showed fantastic teamwork, resilience and problem-solving skills as they worked in a fast-paced racing environment. Alongside time on the track, they also explored a STEM careers fair and met professional scrutineers from Alpine F1, gaining valuable insight into careers within the motorsport industry.

The event also marked the debut of the teams' newly branded race tops, with students proudly representing The Radclyffe School throughout the day.

The school would also like to thank local programme sponsors Diodes and Kajima for their continued support.

Both teams are now looking ahead to the next stage of the competition in June.

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STEM On Track gives students the chance to experience engineering in a completely different way and develop valuable skills outside the classroom. Although the teams faced a few technical challenges, they handled themselves brilliantly and learned a huge amount from the experience.



Mr Brown
Head of Design and Technology



DOFE ADVENTURE IN SADDLEWORTH

This month our Year 10 Duke of Edinburgh's Award students completed their practice walk in Saddleworth, taking on over 20,000 steps with fantastic enthusiasm, resilience and teamwork throughout the day.

Students supported and encouraged one another throughout the challenge, enjoyed a surprise visit from some peacocks along the route, and even treated themselves to some well deserved ice cream!

It was brilliant to see students developing valuable life skills ahead of their full expedition later this year.

A huge thank you to Mr Howarth and all of the staff who gave up their time to organise and attend the trip, and to Mr Franklin for capturing some fantastic photos from the day.

The team are now looking ahead to their weekend expedition coming up in June!



FAITH IN OLDHAM RETURNS TO TRS

Year 9 students took part in another inspiring Faith in Oldham panel as part of their Religious Studies curriculum, organised in partnership with the Oldham Interfaith Forum.

We were delighted to welcome representatives from a range of faith communities, including Father Phil Sumner from St Patrick's Church, Imam Akmal Hussain from Aqsa Mosque Coppice, Kumar Sisodia from the Indian Association, and Rabbi Daniel Walker from Manchester Synagogue.

Students asked thoughtful questions exploring faith, identity, traditions and community, helping to deepen their understanding of different beliefs and experiences. The panel also highlighted the shared values that unite communities, closely reflecting our own school values of Respect, Excellence and Kindness.

We would like to thank all of our guests for giving their time and sharing their insight with our students.

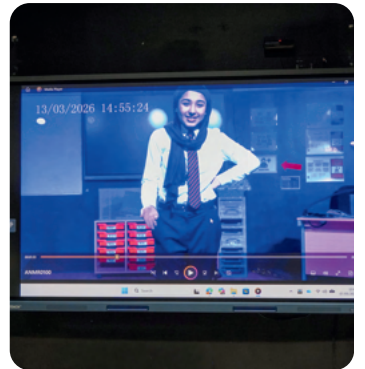
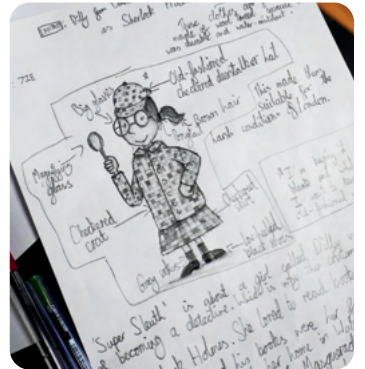
YEAR 7 STUDENTS IMPRESS IN DRAMA CHALLENGE

Recently, staff had the difficult task of judging entries for our new Year 7 initiative, Challenge Yourself in Drama, and were blown away by the creativity and effort on display.

Students took on a range of exciting challenges including Theatre in a Box, Costume Design, Script Writing, Knowledge Organisers and Performance Work, producing a fantastic variety of imaginative entries.

From Greek mythology and fairytale-inspired creations to character explorations and realistic job interview scenarios, students demonstrated impressive creativity, originality and enthusiasm throughout.

Choosing winners was no easy task, with successful entries set to be announced during the Year 7 rewards assembly later in the year. A huge well done to all students who took part and embraced the challenge.



CELEBRATING STUDENT SUCCESS

There was a lovely atmosphere at our recent Book of Excellence celebration, as students and staff came together to recognise and celebrate those who received nominations during the half term.

Students were presented with certificates by their Year Managers before heading into the café to enjoy breakfast, drinks and a few board games together.

Combined with the sunny weather, the morning created a really positive and relaxed atmosphere for everyone involved.

It was fantastic to see so many students enjoying themselves, celebrating one another's successes and already looking forward to the next event.

A huge well done to all students who were recognised, and we look forward to celebrating even more achievements at our final Book of Excellence event later in the year.



A SPECIAL MILESTONE FOR YEAR 11

Before the start of the GCSE exam period, our Year 11 students came together for their annual shirt signing session, marking an important milestone in their journey at The Radclyffe School.

There was a fantastic atmosphere around school as students shared messages, memories and good luck wishes with friends and staff, taking time to reflect on the experiences, friendships and achievements that have shaped their time with us.

Staff also enjoyed getting involved in the occasion, signing shirts and leaving messages of encouragement for students ahead of their exams. It was lovely to see so many positive conversations taking place around school and the strong relationships students have built.

The occasion provided a special opportunity for students to celebrate how far they have come before beginning the next stage of their journey.

As Year 11 continue through their GCSE exams, we remain incredibly proud of everything they have achieved so far and wish them every success in the weeks ahead.



SPONGEBOB TAKES TO THE STAGE

Rehearsals for SpongeBob The Musical are well underway, with our talented cast working hard to bring Bikini Bottom to life on stage.

Students have been developing dance routines, musical numbers and character performances as the production continues to come together behind the scenes. The enthusiasm, energy and commitment shown throughout rehearsals have been fantastic to see.

Excitement is continuing to build around the show, and we look forward to sharing more from rehearsals in the coming weeks.

TRS STUDENTS SHINE THROUGH SPORTS LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME

Over the final weeks of last half term, Year 9 and 10 students visited Mills Hill Primary School as part of their Level 1 and 2 Leadership qualifications, with the final visit taking place on the last day.

Organised by Mrs Coope, students have spent the year developing leadership, communication and teamwork skills before planning and delivering sports sessions for the Year 5 and 6 pupils.

Our students led activities, encouraged younger pupils and worked together brilliantly as a team, representing both themselves and The Radclyffe School exceptionally well.

We were incredibly proud to receive such positive feedback from the staff at Mills Hill, who praised the way our students conducted themselves during the sessions.

A huge thank you to Mills Hill Primary School for welcoming us and supporting such a positive experience for our students.



GCSE CALENDAR FOR JUNE 2026

Monday 1st June

Physical Education 2

Tuesday 2nd June

Physics 1 (Combined and Triple Science) |
Media Studies 2 | Portuguese Listening and
Reading | Urdu Writing

Wednesday 3rd June

Mathematics 2 | Geography 2

Thursday 4th June

History 2 | French Reading and Understanding

Friday 5th June

English Language 2 | Music

Monday 8th June

Biology 2 (Combined and Triple Science) |
French Writing

Tuesday 9th June

History 3

Wednesday 10th June

Mathematics 3 | Design Technology: Textiles
and Timbers

Thursday 11th June

Geography 3 | Food Preparation and Nutrition

Friday 12th June

Chemistry 2 (Combined and Triple Science) |
Portuguese Writing

Monday 15th June

Physics 2 (Combined and Triple Science)

MARKING MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK

We marked Mental Health Awareness Week through a range of activities designed to promote wellbeing, connection and support across our school community.

From PLG sessions and assemblies to our Mental Health Market and tailored lunchtime clubs, it was fantastic to see students and staff engaging so positively throughout the week.

We walked and ran laps of our outdoor track, with 107 laps equalling a full marathon, as part of our charity fundraiser.

Staff also took part in Wear It Green on the Thursday to help encourage important conversations around mental health, with some of the team combining their green outfits with a few lunchtime laps.

As a school, we know how important it is to create opportunities for open conversations around mental health and remind one another that support is always available.



TRS IMPRESSES IN CRICKET FIXTURES

This month has been a fantastic period of cricket success for TRS students.

Our KS3 girls cricket team secured an impressive third place in the Oldham Schools Cricket Tournament, showing brilliant teamwork, determination and sportsmanship throughout the competition against strong opposition.

Meanwhile, our Year 9/10 boys cricket team secured a fantastic victory against Newman to progress to the Oldham Schools semi-finals.

Despite being a player down, the team showed excellent resilience and teamwork, with Year 9 students stepping up brilliantly to support the Year 10 side.

A brilliant set of performances from all involved.

RESULTS OF OUR CONSULTATION AND CHANGES TO UNIFORM

Earlier this academic year, we consulted 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. As a result of the consultation, we have received some helpful and thoughtful feedback.

Overall outcome

The consultation showed strong support for the proposed changes, with:

- 49 responses from parents, carers and staff
- 78% (38 respondents) supporting the proposals overall
- 16% (8 respondents) unsure
- 6% (3 respondents) opposed

A clear theme throughout the consultation was the desire to reduce uniform costs while maintaining high standards and consistency.

Findings

Trousers

- 90% supported removing the requirement for logoed trousers.
- Respondents welcomed the opportunity to purchase trousers from a wider range of retailers, reducing costs for families.
- Many comments highlighted concerns about the cost, fit and quality of current logoed trousers.
- There was more mixed feedback regarding style restrictions, with some respondents favouring greater flexibility and others supporting the school's continued expectations around a smart appearance.

Skirts

- 80% supported replacing the logoed skirt with a more affordable pleated skirt.
- Feedback strongly supported reducing costs and increasing purchasing options.
- Some respondents questioned the requirement for a pleated style and suggested greater flexibility, while others felt clear expectations were important for maintaining standards.

Sports Hijab

- 65% supported introducing an optional sports hijab as part of the PE kit.
- Comments highlighted the positive impact on inclusion, participation and student choice.

Areas remaining unchanged

- A majority supported retaining current expectations regarding:
 - Blazers, shirts and ties
 - Footwear standards
 - Hair and makeup expectations
 - Behaviour expectations relating to prohibited items

Agreed changes from September 2026

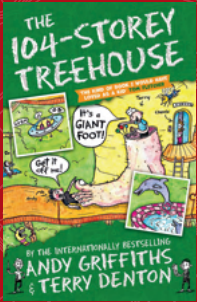
- ✓ Remove the requirement for logoed trousers and allow tailored black school trousers purchased from any retailer, subject to published style expectations.
- ✓ Replace the current logoed skirt with an approved tailored pleated black skirt, reducing costs for families while maintaining a consistent appearance.
- ✓ Introduce an optional sports hijab as part of the PE uniform offer.
- ✓ Continue to maintain high standards regarding blazer, shirt, tie, footwear, appearance and behaviour expectations.

Key messages for parents, carers and staff

- **The changes will make uniform more affordable and accessible for families.**
- **Standards of dress and presentation will remain high.**
- **Clear guidance and visual examples will be published to support families when purchasing uniform.**
- **The school will continue to review feedback and monitor the impact of the changes during the 2026–27 academic year.**

RADCLYFFE RECOMMENDED READS

Our library team have recommended some of their favourite reads that never stay on the shelves, and are sure to appeal to even the most reluctant readers!



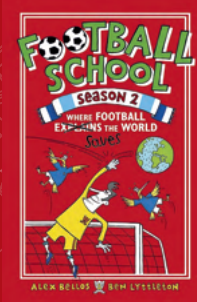
Title and Author: The 104-Storey Treehouse by Andy Griffiths
For lovers of: Chaotic adventures, Diary of a Wimpy Kid, Tom Gates
Genre: Children's comedic fiction
Content warnings: Gressed-out humour, chaotic situations
Age range: 11+

The 104-Storey Treehouse shows how imagination, teamwork, and creativity can turn ordinary problems into exciting adventures. Even when Andy and Terry get distracted or make mistakes, they keep trying and help each other. Especially recommended for readers who may not usually enjoy long books, this is mix of comic-style illustrations and action which helps readers see that books can be playful, entertaining, and full of surprises.



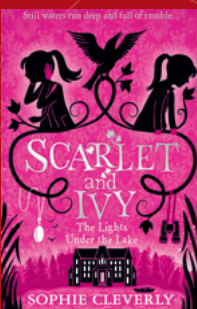
Title and Author: The Nine Lives of Montezuma by Michael Morpurgo
For lovers of: Animal stories
Genre: Children's historical fiction and adventure
Content warnings: Animal danger, emotional themes
Age range: 12+

This is a heartwarming story about a farm cat named Montezuma who survives many dangerous adventures throughout his life. The book explores themes of courage, survival, loyalty, and the special bond between animals and humans. As Montezuma faces accidents, loss, and change, readers learn about resilience and the importance of never giving up. The emotional journey and realistic animal experiences encourage readers to care about nature and appreciate the love and trust pets can bring into people's lives.



Title and Author: Football School Season 2 by Alex Bellos and Ben Lyttleton
For lovers of: Football facts, quizzes and sports
Genre: Children's non fiction, educational sports
Content warnings: Competitive sports themes
Age range: 12+

Football School Season 2 is packed with amazing football facts, funny stories, quizzes, and science connected to the world of football. The book teaches readers about history, geography, math, and more through exciting examples in sport.



Title and Author: Scarlet and Ivy: The Lights Under the Lake by Sophie Cleverly
For lovers of: Secret societies and detective stories
Genre: Children's fiction / Mystery / Adventure
Content warnings: Mild suspense, danger, bullying themes
Age range: 13+

Twins Scarlet and Ivy investigate strange glowing lights beneath the school lake. As they uncover hidden secrets and mysterious clues, the sisters must work together to solve another dangerous mystery at Rookwood School. The suspense, friendship, and unexpected twists make the book exciting and keep readers eager to discover the truth alongside the characters.

THE RADCLYFFE SCOOP



BY THE STUDENTS, FOR THE STUDENTS

THE CHESS TOURNAMENT

A tournament for staff and students is currently taking place at TRS. The chess tournament has already gone through four rounds, and each round has become more intense.

The current standings show students performing better than staff, however this could still change as the tournament continues.

The club is run by Mr Franklin, who has a passion for chess and runs a club every Wednesday. If you are interested in joining, I would definitely recommend it.

Chess is a two-player strategy board game played on a 64-square board, where the objective is to checkmate the opponent's king. Each piece moves in a different way, making the game both challenging and exciting.



WHAT'S ON?

Wish you could make more of your lunchtimes? Want to learn something new, meet new people, and get involved? The Radclyffe School's got you! Whether it's badminton or science, dance or calligraphy, there is a club for everyone!

MON	Creative Writing With: Mrs Moran Where: 2B08	Badminton With: Mrs Coope Where: 1A05	Textiles & Embroidery With: Mrs Manning Where: 1B04	Lego Club With: Mr Shakir (+ students) Where: 1B05
TUES	Journalism With: Miss Rule Where: 3B11	Trampoline With: Miss Goddard Where: 1A05	DJ & Remixing Club With: Mrs Millington Where: 2F02	STEM On Track With: Mr Brown and Mr Shakir Where: 1B05/06
WEDS	Film Club With: Ms Khan Where: 2B04	Keyboard Playing With: Mr Calvert Where: 2F01	Geek Club With: Mr Patel Where: 2C05	Jewellery Club With: Mrs Khatun Where: Personal Development Hub
THURS	Calligraphy With: Miss Begum Where: 2G01	Drama Club With: Mrs Payne Where: 1F02	Debate Club With: Mrs Begum Where: 2B15	Table Tennis With: Mr Finc Where: 1A05
FRI	Gym With: Mr Waugh Where: 1H02	Home Learning With: Mr Jenkins Where: 3C07	Dance With: Mrs Standing Where: 1A01	Friday Prayer With: Mr Islam Where: 1A01

DINOSAUR OF THE MONTH

This is Saad Ahmed coming at you, the reader with the first issue of dinosaur of the month, the *Concavenator Corcovatus*.



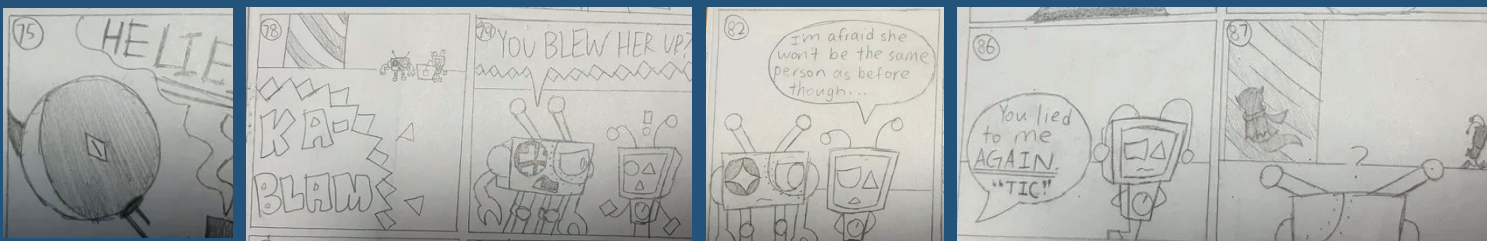
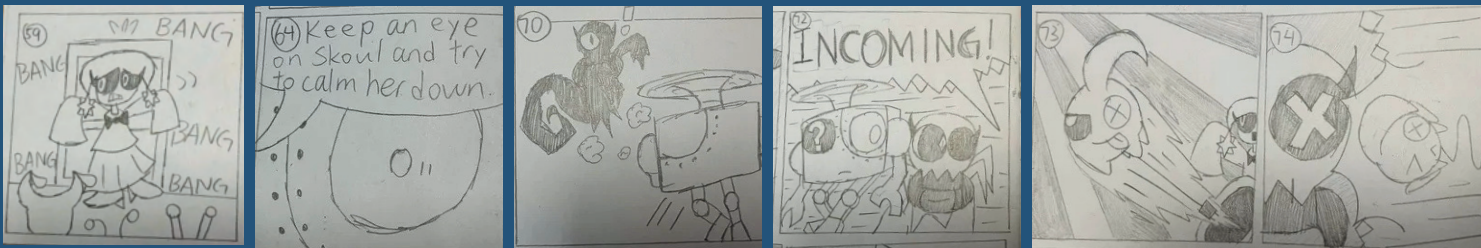
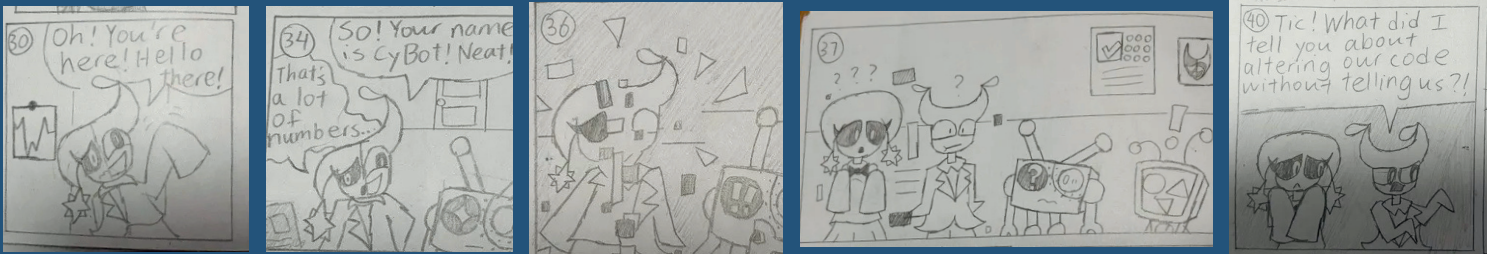
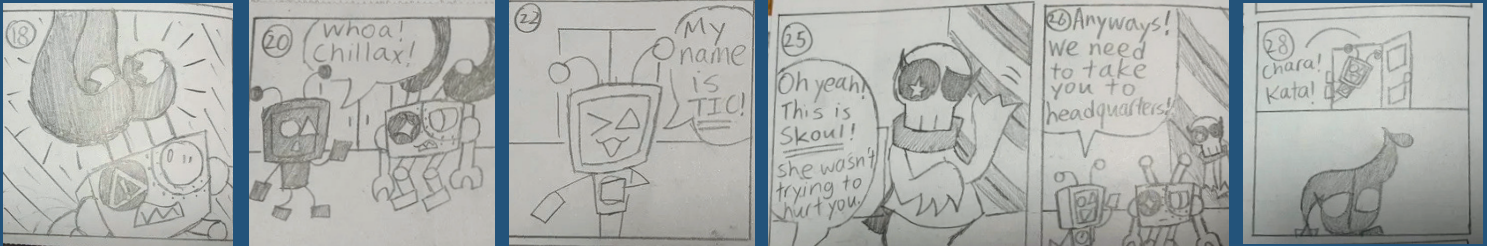
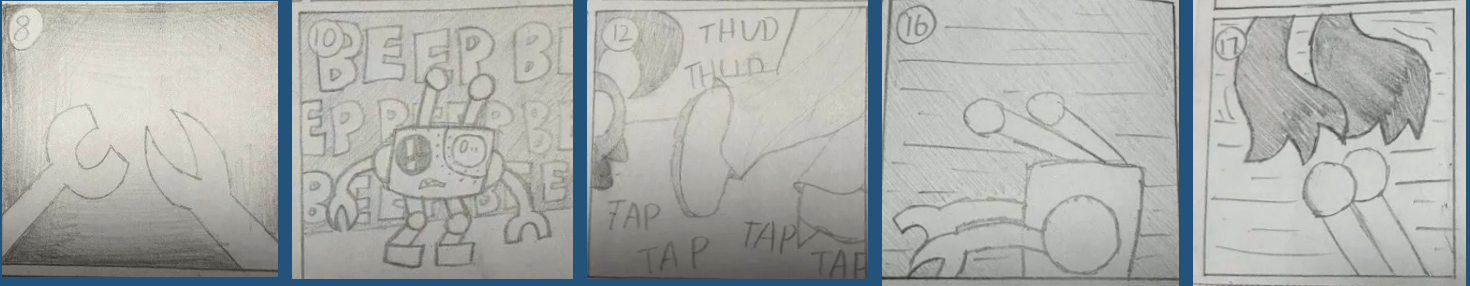
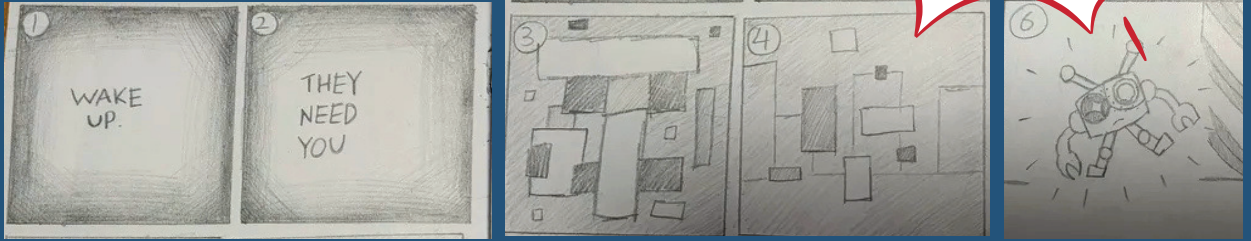
- It belongs to a clade, Carcharodontosauridae, which consists of lesser known dinosaurs such as Acrocanthosaurus or Mapusaurus Roseae.
- This dinosaur is 320 to 400 kg in weight and 5.8 to 6 meters in length as an adult.
- It originates from 130 to 125 million years ago, but was discovered by Jose Luis Sanz in September 2010.
- Its name means Cuenca's hump backed hunter, highlighting its very visible back humps.
- It was featured in Jurassic world: Fallen Kingdom, and the original Jurassic Park films.
- It packs a moderate bite force, relying on rapid-damage over time, mainly feasting on Pelecanimimus, Mantellisaurus, Concornis or Iberomesornis.

Anyway, that wraps up this one, see you next month. Saad, out!

ROBOT DISTRICT

We hope you enjoy this selection of panels from Nikita and Luke's comic about Tic!

Read me left to right!



SEE WHAT LIFE AT THE
RADCLYFFE SCHOOL IS REALLY
LIKE IN OUR TRANSITION VIDEO!



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

JUNE 2026

- 8** Y10 SPORT STUDIES LEADERSHIP ASSESSMENTS BEGIN
- 15** YEAR 7 TO 10 REWARDS TRIPS
- 15** Y10 FRENCH SPEAKING PPES BEGIN
- 16** YEAR 10 GEOGRAPHY TRIPS BEGIN
- 19** STEM ON TRACK GRAND FINAL
- 23** OSFC TASTER DAY YEAR 10
- 23** NEW PARENTS' EVENING
- 24** YEAR 11 PROM
- 25** OLDHAM COLLEGE TASTER DAY
- 27** DOFE EXPEDITION BEGINS
- 29** TRS LITERATURE FESTIVAL WEEK
- 29** YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE WEEK
- 29** YEAR 9&10 CELEBRATION EVENING
- 30** YEAR 7&8 CELEBRATION EVENING
- 30** YEAR 9 CHESTER UNIVERSITY TRIP



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