



The Radclyffe School
"Working Together for Excellence"



SEPTEMBER 2026

NEWSLETTER



IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE

Welcome to the September edition of The Radclyffe School newsletter!

The new academic year has brought a fresh energy to The Radclyffe School, with familiar faces returning, our new Year 7 students beginning their secondary school journey and students across all year groups getting involved in lessons, activities and lots of opportunities.

Our Year 7s have made a particularly positive start. Alongside settling into new routines, classrooms and friendships, they headed to Linnet Clough for a team-building trip.

Our netball teams have enjoyed some fantastic success on the court, while our September Open Evening welcomed hundreds of prospective families through our doors. From meeting staff and exploring departments to seeing some of the activities and opportunities on offer, visitors had the chance to get a feel for life at The Radclyffe School.

These are just some of the highlights from the first few weeks of the new academic year.

From achievements and enrichment activities to events, opportunities and news from across our community, there is lots to catch up on in this month's newsletter.

We hope you enjoy reading!



SCAN HERE TO SEE
MORE OF SCHOOL LIFE



GETTING READY FOR YEAR 7 AT SUMMER SCHOOL

What better way to get ready for Year 7 than with a week of new experiences, exciting activities and the chance to get to know your new school? Towards the end of the summer holidays, we welcomed a group of our incoming Year 7 students to our annual Summer School.

The programme gave students a head start on secondary school life, helping them become familiar with their new surroundings, meet some of the people they will be spending the next few years with and begin to feel at home at TRS.

Throughout the week, students took part in activities across a range of subjects, explored different areas of the school and had the chance to try something a little different. From working together to taking on new challenges, there was plenty to keep everyone engaged.

It was lovely to see students grow in confidence as the week went on, forming new friendships and becoming more comfortable with navigating their way around as well as getting to know staff and one another.

The programme came to a close with a trip to Apple Jacks Farm, where students took on a variety of challenges and enjoyed spending time together away from the classroom.

It was a great way to round off the week and celebrate everything they had experienced along the way.

We hope Summer School helped make the transition to secondary school feel that little bit easier, while giving our new Year 7 students a positive and memorable start to life at The Radclyffe School.



A NEW SCHOOL YEAR BEGINS



After six relatively quiet weeks, it didn't take long for The Radclyffe School to feel lively again as students returned for the new academic year.

We gave a particularly warm welcome to our new Year 7 students, who have spent their first few weeks getting to know their teachers and classmates, finding their way around and becoming familiar with their new routines.

For returning students, September has been a chance to reconnect with friends, settle back into lessons and get involved in the many activities and opportunities on offer.

It has been lovely to see the school community come back together. As the year gets underway, we're looking forward to seeing everyone grow in confidence, develop their interests and make the most of all that school life has to offer. Here's to a brilliant year at The Radclyffe School!

YEAR 11 NETBALL SUCCESS

The Year 11 Netball team put in a fantastic performance at the Year 11 B Rally, showing great determination and teamwork despite challenging conditions. While they didn't come away with the overall win, their hard work and commitment throughout the tournament were clear to see.

A special congratulations goes to Scarlett, who was named Player of the Tournament alongside two students from other schools. Scarlett, along with Harriet and Jessica, has represented the school's netball team since Year 7, regularly attending training twice a week, and their dedication and commitment over the past five years will be greatly missed when they leave us next summer.



CURIOSITY, EXPERIMENTS AND DISCOVERY AT PRIMARY SCIENCE DAY



There was plenty of curiosity, experimentation and hands-on learning at The Radclyffe School earlier this month, as we welcomed pupils from some of our local primary schools for Primary Science Day.

Pupils from schools including St Luke's and St Matthew's explored our specialist science facilities and took part in a range of practical challenges designed to get them thinking, questioning and investigating like scientists.



The day began with an energetic and interactive science show from Dr Ken Science, who had pupils laughing, thinking and getting involved throughout. Some of our KS3 students also joined in and enjoyed the show.

The primary pupils then headed into our science laboratories to put their own scientific skills to the test.



One of the experiments saw them use red cabbage indicator to investigate whether everyday substances were acidic or alkaline. They made observations, tested their ideas and watched the colour change as their experiments unfolded.

Alongside developing their scientific skills, the day gave pupils a glimpse of life at The Radclyffe School, including the specialist facilities and opportunities available to them as they move on to secondary education.



It was fantastic to see pupils getting stuck into the experiments, asking questions and sharing their ideas as they tackled each challenge.

Primary Science Day was a great opportunity to bring pupils from our local primary schools into our school and give them a chance to experience science beyond their usual classroom.

We were delighted to welcome prospective students and their families to The Radclyffe School for our Open Evening, with a fantastic turnout.

Visitors had the opportunity to explore the school, meet our staff and students, and get a taste of the experiences and opportunities available at TRS.

Across the school, our departments brought learning to life with interactive activities, demonstrations and displays, from STEM On Track go-karts and sports activities to investigations, drama costumes, photobooth props, performances, food tasters and much more.

Our new Passport Challenge was also a big hit, encouraging families to explore different areas of the school and get involved in activities along the way. Meanwhile, The Street was filled with performances from our students in Music, Drama, English and Poetry.

There was also an opportunity for families to meet members of our Pastoral and SEND teams, ask questions and find out more about the support available to students.

For us, an important part of Open Evening is giving families the chance to experience not only our facilities and curriculum, but the welcoming and supportive community that sits at the heart of life at TRS.

Peer Mentors welcomed families, gave tours and shared their experiences of life at TRS, while students from across the school helped staff, supported activities and demonstrations, and performed throughout the evening.

A huge thank you to everyone who helped make the evening such a success. It was wonderful to see so many of our students representing the school with such enthusiasm and welcoming visitors into our community.

EXPERIENCING TRS LIFE AT OPEN EVENING



MISSED OPEN EVENING, OR FANCY ANOTHER LOOK AROUND?

Scan the QR code to read our full Open Evening round-up, see more of what was on offer and find out about our upcoming events and next steps for prospective families.

CELEBRATING OUR YEAR 11 PEER MENTORS



This year's Open Evening was a special one for our Year 11 Peer Mentors, as they took part in the event for the final time.

Over the years, they have given their time to support school events, welcome new students and families, and help others feel at home at TRS. It has been fantastic to see their confidence grow and watch them take on their roles with such enthusiasm.

With their time as Peer Mentors now coming to an end, their focus turns to their PPEs, GCSEs and the next steps beyond The Radclyffe School.

It was lovely to have one final event with them and see them doing what they do best: helping others, getting involved and making a positive contribution to our community.

Thank you for everything, Year 11!

HEY THERE! PalaeoMonarch here with Issue #3 of Mesozoic Monsters, and the NIGERSAURUS TAQUENTI!

Nigersaurus, pronounced **Nee-zehr-soh-rus**, was a type of long-necked dinosaur that lived around 105-115 million years ago in what is now Niger, in West Africa. It was a sauropod, but was smaller than many other dinosaurs in this group, measuring around 9–14 metres long.

One of the most interesting things about Nigersaurus was its mouth. It had a very wide muzzle with more than 500 teeth, which were replaced very quickly, roughly every two weeks. Its jaws were specially shaped for feeding on plants close to the ground, such as ferns and other soft plants.

Its skull was also unusual because it had very thin bones and lots of air spaces. Scientists think Nigersaurus probably spent a lot of its time with its head close to the ground while feeding.

The first fossils were discovered in Niger in the 1970s, but Nigersaurus was not officially named until 1999. Its name means "Niger reptile", and taqueti honours the palaeontologist Philippe Taquet, who discovered the first remains. That's all for this one, PalaeoMonarch, out!



STUDENT NEWSLETTER FEATURE

MESOZOIC MONSTERS

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR YEAR 11 STUDENTS

Drama Devised Practical: 22nd - 23rd October 2026

MFL Speaking PPEs: 9th - 13th November 2026

College Application Deadline: 13th November 2026

PPEs (Round One): 16th - 27th November 2026

Art and Photography PPEs: 30th November - 4th December 2026

Parents' Evening: 7th January 2027 (4pm - 7:30pm)

PPEs (Round Two): 8th - 26th February 2027

Final Push Parents' Evening: 18th March 2027

GCSE Exams Begin: 10th May 2027

GCSE Exams End: 18th June 2027

GCSE Results Day: 19th August 2027

THE RADCLYFFE SCHOOL
DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

Year 11 NEA Deadlines

RESPECT | KINDNESS | EXCELLENCE

Investigation COMPONENT 2 NEA Design context, problem identification and research complete.	FRI 20 SEP 2026
Design COMPONENT 2 NEA Specification, ideas, development and final design proposal finished.	FRI 23 OCT 2026
Make COMPONENT 2 NEA Final prototype manufactured, with full photographic evidence.	FRI 12 FEB 2027
Evaluate COMPONENT 2 NEA Final NEA hand-in – all sections due.	FRI 26 FEB 2027
Written Exam COMPONENT 1 Afternoon sitting. Core, specialist & designing/making principles.	TUE 15 JUN 2027



YEAR 7 TEAMBUILDING TRIP

Our Year 7 students headed to Linnet Clough Scout Camp & Activity Centre for a day of challenges, teamwork and plenty of fun as they continue to settle into life at The Radclyffe School.

There was lots to get involved in, from tackling the climbing frame and testing their accuracy at football darts to exploring the centre and taking on challenges together.

Away from the classroom, the trip gave students the chance to spend time with their friends, get to know their PLGs and staff in a different setting, and work together as a team. It was also a chance to try something new, step outside their comfort zones and, of course, have plenty of fun along the way!

The trip was a fantastic way to build on the friendships and connections that have already begun to form, while giving our Year 7s some memorable experiences to share.



SCAN HERE TO SEE
MORE OF SCHOOL LIFE



OCTOBER 2026



Year 9 and 11 Careers Fair



Year 8 and 9 Excellence Evening



Geography Trip - 15th and 16th



KS4 Music Trip



Photography Trip to Manchester (and 23rd)



Ambassador Training



Photography Trip to Manchester



Year 10 Sports Studies Trip



Year 11 Drama Practicals - 22nd and 23rd



School closes for October half term

NOVEMBER 2026



Students return to school



MFL Speaking PPEs (all week)



Year 11 College Application deadline



Year 11 PPEs begin



The Radclyffe School
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