

# SHARED

## Bulletin/Newsletter



Welcome to our new end of term newsletter. I hope you will join us in celebrating all the fantastic things that have happened this term at Lightcliffe Academy. The return of extra-curricular activities has been welcomed and students have really enjoyed participating in these. We are very proud of our Year 10 boys football team who have had an exceptional season and we wish them good luck in the next round of the English Schools National Cup. Please do follow us on Facebook and/or Twitter to see more amazing achievements. I wish you and your families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Stay safe and keep well.

**Ms R Wood-Ives**

Head of School

## Year 7 – Calderdale League Champions: 2021/22



***Massive congratulations to our Year 7 footballers, who after an unbeaten Calderdale League run of 4 wins and 1 draw, have been crowned as Calderdale League Champions for the 2021/22 season.***

***An absolutely monumental season for our footballers so far. Our next target is to win the 'Calderdale Double' by claiming the Calderdale cup in the New Year!***

## Year 10 – West Yorkshire Cup Winners: 2021/22

30<sup>th</sup> November 2021: After being denied the opportunity of victory in the 2020 West Yorkshire Cup Final due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Lightcliffe Academy Year 10 footballers finally got their hands on the trophy for the first time in our schools' history, after a thoroughly deserved 3-1 victory over Colne Valley High School of Huddersfield.

Prior to the West Yorkshire Cup Final, the Year 10 footballers had so far maintained an 11-game winning streak in what had been the most dominant footballing displays delivered from a Lightcliffe Academy team in our schools' tenure.



On our way to the West Yorkshire Cup final our Yr10 team brushed aside Farnley (2-0), Spen Valley (7-1) and Wetherby (4-1).

However, within 5 mins of the final whistle, we were extraordinarily 1-0 down which was the first time the Yr10's have been behind in a game since January 2020!

In typically determined and resilient fashion, this minor setback barely fazed our players, as we equalised immediately from the restart with a fantastic solo goal from one of the outstanding performers on the evening, Thom.

With a surge of momentum and desire to take a 2-1 gained from the first goal, we did just that when Charlie pounced onto a shot which was saved by the Colne Valley goalkeeper to slot the ball home into an empty net.

Charlie then tried an audacious lobbed shot from around 30-yards when he spotted the Colne Valley keeper in an unnatural position in his own 18-yard box, but the shot was eventually superbly saved.

At half-time, the first substitution was required when goalkeeper Noah had to be replaced due to concussion and nausea, and his replacement, Lewis, was absolutely instrumental in preserving our slender 1 goal advantage.

After an uncharacteristic, critical half-time rallying cry from Mr Worsnop, the Lightcliffe Academy players responded magnificently. The players took on board minor adjustments and from the first to the final whistle of the second half, it was a typically dominant footballing masterclass.



Fantastic composure whilst defending our goal and being confident in building attacks from defence was demonstrated by our stalwart back-line, particularly Jacob and Lewis who were arguably men-of-the-match on the night.

Without failure, Alex and Josh were influential in the defensive midfield partnership and ultimately their strength and resilience to regain and maintain possession was simply too much for the Colne Valley midfield to compete with.

Ultimately it was 'game, set and match' with 5 mins to play when Jacob 'Terminator' played a delightfully weighted 40yd pass over the Colne Valley back-line onto the path of a determined Charlie who nudged the ball beyond an oncoming Colne Valley goalkeeper, and sealed the deal with a 3-1 victory.

Alongside this, the Yr10 boys were crowned Calderdale League Champions only 5 days prior to the West Yorkshire Cup Final after winning all 4 games and conceding a mere 4 goals, scoring an exemplary 29 in the process.

League fixtures concluded with the following wins: 5-0 vs Rastrick, 7-3 vs Brooksbank, 7-1 vs Brighouse, 10-0 vs Trinity.

Additionally, we have reached the 6th round of the English Schools National Cup for only the 2<sup>nd</sup> time in our schools' history, where a tie vs Wales High School, Sheffield, awaits. This means we are now in the final 30 teams in the entire competition from an initial 904 teams who entered back in September 2021. It also means we are the only team in West Yorkshire remaining in the competition.

An amazing season could also see the Yr10 footballers lift their third piece of silverware in the New Year when the Calderdale Cup final knockout competition begins. A competition we certainly expect to be winning based on what has been achieved so far this academic year.

Our school and local community are immensely proud of what these boys have achieved so far this year, and we're certain that more silverware and accolades will be achieved by the end of the football season in Spring 2022. And who knows . . . dare we dream about National Cup glory???



### ***Therapy Dog Mabel ready for work in the SEND department***

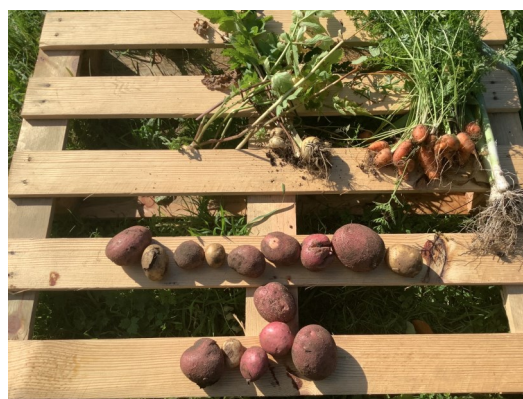
Mabel our School Therapy Dog is an amazing new addition to our fabulous team and is impacting on our students' talk time and communication skills in a way that even we didn't think possible. She brings with her a joy that enables us all to get through our day with a positive outlook...students and staff alike.





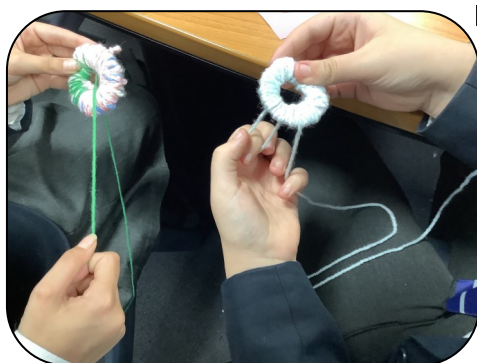
## Gardening group

We have had a very successful year growing a wide variety of fruit, vegetables and flowers. These have then been eaten by staff and pupils. We also held a plant sale on the Year 6 Open Evening selling indoor plants such as spider plants, geranium and lots of succulents.



## Craft/crochet group

This has had a very good start with pupils and staff learning to knit, crochet and other types of craft. It is a lovely relaxing quiet hour after school, several pupils are now doing these activities at break and lunch. Thanks to all the staff that have helped.



## Worth It sessions

The Worth It project have been making reindeer out of wooden pegs.





# Talk Rich Trust

## Becoming an articulate academy



- ◆ We are partnership with a National Oracy charity, Voice 21, to value every child's voice and become a 'Talk-Rich Trust'
- ◆ Our staff are carrying out research-driven lesson studies around the impact of oracy strategies on student progress
- ◆ Talk Tuesday - in form time students debate 'Big Ideas' in line with our SHARED values
- ◆ Form Time DEAL - students engage with modelled, adult-led reading of broadsheet newspaper articles that connect with our SHARED values and discuss the 'Big Ideas' within the articles. Topics this term have included 'Black History Month'; 'Role Models'; 'Is Ambition an Illness?' and 'Remembrance'.
- ◆ Lightcliffe 100 - a weekly initiative - 3 ambitious, sophisticated words that are cross-curricular - students are challenged to use the words correctly and effectively in their lessons across the week.
- ◆ Interested in reading for pleasure? Check out our student-led reading podcast 'The Book Club' <https://www.lightcliffeacademy.co.uk/podcasts/the-book-club>

## Reading Club



Our reading club meet regularly on a lunchtime to discuss the books they are passionate about, explore their ideas and be part of our reading community - our club is ably supported by our lovely librarian, Mrs Whitworth. If you are interested in reading for pleasure, or even trying something new, come and join us on a lunchtime in the library.

We are excited to announce our school show for the year will be Grease and will be performed on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> March, Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> March, Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April and Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> April at 7pm for all shows.

After a year off due to COVID, we are coming back bigger than ever with an amazing set and an appearance of a Grease car that has appeared on Strictly Come Dancing!

Starring Lucas, Ruby, Harrison & Amelie rotating the roles of Sandy & Danny, we also feature a cast of leading Pink Ladies & T-Birds from Year 7 all the way through to Year 11.

Tickets are now available on Parent Pay for £8 for concessions and £10 for adults.



## Geography fieldwork

Year 11 Geography students visited Liverpool in October to look at the impact of regeneration. We had a washout on the first day however students were resilient and still managed to find the best places for lunch! The second day we had better weather, so the students were able to enjoy Albert Dock and Liverpool ONE. It was a great trip which will support students in their Geography



exams in the summer term.

A Year 11 student said the following; "We had a great day out in Liverpool completing Geography research. We first looked around Albert Docks exploring its history and how regeneration has had a positive effect on a once derelict area. We then went to the museum of Liverpool to gain an understanding of how migration has affected Liverpool. Finally, we explored the Liverpool one shopping centre to see how urban regeneration can have such a large effect on areas".



Year 7 Geography students have been completing school fieldwork to find the best place to have a nature area. They visited 3 areas in school and have written a report to Mrs Wood-Ives to inform her where we should have the nature area. The year 7's have been very enthusiastic when completing the research and they loved walking around school with their clipboards.

## Mentoring



## Student Working Groups

This half term our students have been applying to join our student working groups. The working groups will lead on projects across the academy over the next few months. The groups are:-

Service – Year 10 mentors. These students will be mentoring some Year 8 students. This will include year 8 students reading to their mentors on a weekly basis.

Health and Happiness – Mental Well being ambassadors. Students will be working towards the Carnegie Mental Health award with the support of Mrs Rathmell and Mr Clarke.

Resilience – Sustainability. Mrs Fuller will be supporting students to lead on projects across the academy to support our aim to become an Eco Friendly school.

Equity - Developing a tolerant, unprejudiced, unbiased community. Students will be working with Mr Cross on projects to ensure all our school members are part of an unprejudiced community.

Dignity – Anti bullying ambassadors. Our students will be taking part in training from the Princess Diana Trust in January where we will be the host school for the training of 150 anti-bullying ambassadors from a range of secondary schools across our region.

All groups have had their first meeting and it is exciting to see what projects students will take on in the Academy and the impact their will have.



## Black History Month

October was Black History Month and we explored the importance of this through our shared value of 'equity'. Assemblies, form time and an element of every lesson was based around an aspect of Black History.

## School Council

It has been amazing to hold our year and school council meetings again this year. The councils have been brilliant in supporting the Christmas hampers project but also having a voice on aspects of school life, including the dignity project which will be commencing in January.



It has also been wonderful to see our Year 11 Principal students and prefects taking on their role this term. They have been involved with lunch time duties, Open Evening and the Poppy appeal. It is an excellent opportunity for them all to widen their experiences in support of their application to Post 16 colleges/ apprenticeships next year.

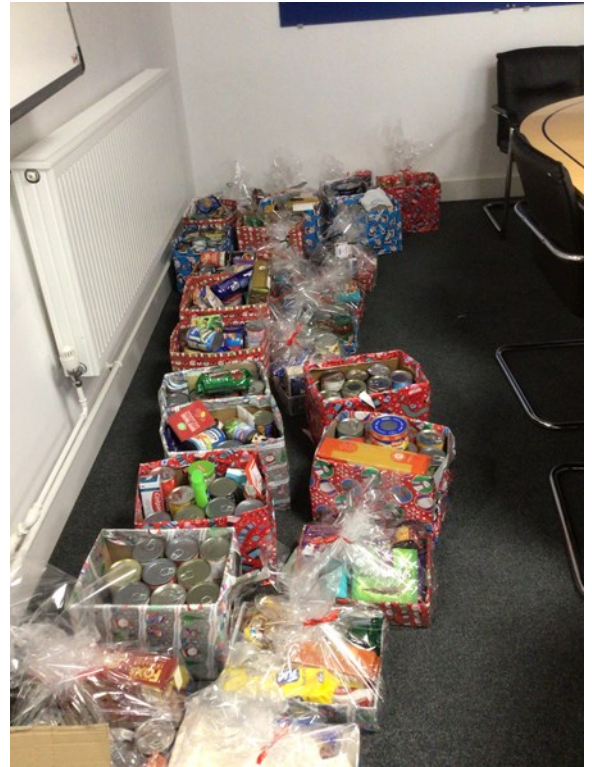
## Year 7 and 8 Sport Education

In Year 7 and 8 PE lessons, students have been taking part in sport education, where everyone works as part of a team each lesson, taking on different roles. One of these is the role of the coach. We have looking at how a coach communicates to their team through verbal communication (tone, volume of speech), the non-verbal ways of communication (demonstrations) and the importance of listening to others. Here you can see a Year 7 coach leading her team through a practice.



## ***Christmas Hamper***

For the past six years we have gifted a Christmas Hamper full of donations made by our students to some of our local residents. Unfortunately, due to Covid, we could not invite residents into school for a Christmas afternoon tea, which is usually organised by our students. However, we were still able to collect for the hampers and our principal students deliver them. Each form representative helped to wrap the hampers in our half termly year council meeting. Many thanks to everyone who donated.



## ***Christmas Jumpers***

It is brilliant that as an Academy we can support a local charity and on the last day of term staff and students have been asked to wear a Christmas Jumper to school and make a donation to Overgate Hospice. We will update you in the New Year with the total amount raised.

## ***Genes for Jeans***

Back in September the science department organised a week of activities in assemblies, form time and science lessons based around the work of the charity Genes for Jeans. It concluded with students asked to wear jeans to school and giving a donation towards the charity Genes for Jeans. It was amazing to raise over £500 – well done to everyone, especially Mr Tetlaw who organised the week.

## ***Dignity Next Half Term***

Next half term we will be focusing on our SHARED Character of Dignity. Each week we will look at a different aspect of academy life and what dignity should look like in this area. We will be sharing further information on this in the New Year.



## Active Trailblazers

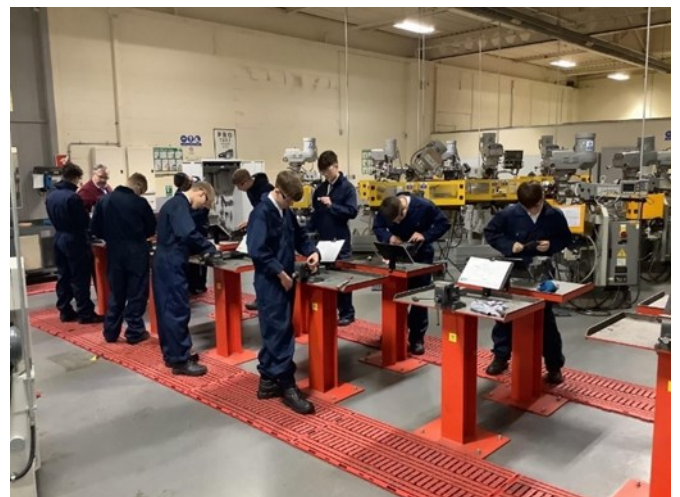
In October our students took part in an active day in the Academy. As one of only two trailblazer secondary schools in the country to take part in the Active Schools project. The project aims to give opportunities to all members of our school community to be more active throughout the school day and beyond. The focus of the day was 'health and happiness', with a theme of active learning. Below are some photos of the lunch time active activities that were led by our year council student representatives.



## Year 11 Apprenticeship Trip

Year 11 students interested in apprenticeships in Engineering were able to visit Calderdale College in November to experience some of the courses they offer firsthand in their workshops. It was brilliant to see the student experience what these courses can offer.

There are other trips planned in the new year for Year 10 and Year 11 students to experience what is available for them at Post 16.



## SHARED Champion

This term it has been a pleasure that Heidi in Year 10 became our first SHARED Champion for Service. Heidi has previously battled a brain haemorrhage but decided to spend her spare time helping others by organising for packages for parents of young patients that are rushed into Leeds General Infirmary. A company saw the article of Heidi in the newspaper and wanted to support her charity work and arranged a board meeting about it. A marketing company, are now offering free time and Turberg, an aviation engineering company think they can get their suppliers interested in contributing. She has had her first board meeting and there will be another one soon.

We are exceptionally proud of all the work Heidi has done over the past few weeks – well done Heidi for being our first SHARED Champion for Service.

Health

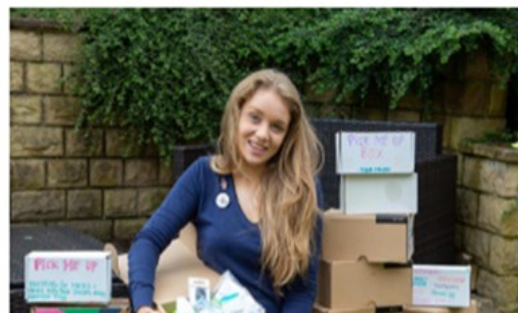
### Thoughtful Calderdale teen who suffered a brain haemorrhage comes up with care package project

This brave Northowram teen faced months of recovery after battling a brain haemorrhage - but decided to put the time to good use by helping others.

By Sarah Fitton

Wednesday, 21st July 2021, 9:19 am

Updated: Wednesday, 21st July 2021, 9:20 am



Most Popular

## Boxing Fit

RABC Boxing Club coach Paul Morris has been working with students throughout school. He is working on using boxing to engage with young people and encourage positive behaviour. Boxing is being used as the tool to teach young people the disciplines of life and how to respect themselves and others. The students are learning new skills whilst also developing their fitness. Some students are even using this new skill as part of the Duke of Edinburgh Award. Thank you Paul for your time and support.





## *Endeavour Programme*

The Endeavour Programme is a 14 week pathway giving students the opportunity to develop practical skills in outdoor adventure. Students have developed their knowledge of the countryside code, map reading skills, camp craft, first aid training and rock climbing. They have learnt to be more confident and motivated. They have developed their oracy skills and learnt to overcome challenges as a group whilst improving their social skills and making new friends. We look forward to continuing our work with Chameleon Outdoors in the New Year.



## Extra-Curricular Timetable

Below is our extra-curricular timetable for next half time. We are expanding our offer again, this term we have new clubs including our debating club and our Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh students volunteering to deliver a table tennis/ Badminton/boccia club on a Wednesday after school.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	On Going
<b>Activity</b>	All Art groups GCSE	Staff Meeting	<b>Year 8</b> Reading Club	<b>Year 10 &amp; 11</b> Ms Storah & Ms Badejo GCSE groups	<b>All Year</b> Girls Football	<b>Year 9</b> Duke of Edinburgh
<b>Location</b>	Art Dept		B.2.05 (SKA)	Art Dept	Astro (MBR)	
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Year 7 &amp; 8</b> Art Club		<b>All Years</b> Craft Club	<b>Year 8</b> Art (Wk 2 only)	<b>All Years</b> Just Dance/ Karaoke	
<b>Location</b>	E.1.04		LRC	Art Dept	Lunch times LRC	
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Year 7</b> Reading Club		<b>All Years</b> Debating Club	<b>All Years</b> Rehearsal for School Production		
<b>Location</b>	B.2.05 (SKA)		B.1.11	C.1.60		
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Year 11</b> Revision/ Ambition sessions		<b>All Years</b> Badminton/ Table tennis/ Boccia	<b>Year 11</b> English Revision sessions		
<b>Location</b>	B.1.04		Sports Hall	A.2.04		
<b>Activity</b>	<b>All Years</b> Boys Football		<b>Year 11</b> Maths Revision	<b>All Years</b> Maths cafe		
<b>Location</b>	Astro-turf (JWP & MBR)		E.2.09	C.2.12		
<b>Activity</b>	<b>All Years</b> Girls Rugby			<b>All Years</b> Boys Rugby		
<b>Location</b>	Fields/Astro (ACR)			Fields /Astro (GLS & ASN)		
<b>Activity</b>	<b>All Years</b> Dance			<b>All Years</b> Netball		
<b>Location</b>	Dance Studio (KFE)			Sports Hall (ACR)		
<b>Activity</b>	<b>All Years</b> Rehearsal for School Production			<b>All Years</b> Reading Club		
<b>Location</b>	C.1.60			Lunch times LRC		
<b>Activity</b>				<b>Year 8</b> Crest Award		
<b>Location</b>				F1.20 (OBN)		



# Key Dates

Term Dates		
<u>Spring term 2022</u>		
Open (Y7 and Y11)		Tuesday 4th January
Y8 and Y10 return to school		Wednesday 5th January
Y9 return to school		Thursday 6th January
Training Day	Closed	Monday 24th January
Half term	Close	Friday 18th February
Open		Monday 28th February
Easter	Close	Friday 8th April
<u>Summer term 2022</u>		
Open		Monday 25th April
May Day	Closed	Monday 2nd May
Half term	Close	Friday 27th May
Open		Monday 6th June
Close		Thursday 21st July
<u>Autumn term 2022</u>		
Training Day	Closed	Monday 5th September
Open (Y7 and Y11)		Tuesday 6th September
Open whole school		Wednesday 7th September

## Dance Festival

It was incredibly exciting to hold the dance festival on Monday 13th December for the first time since June 2019. It was also the first time again having a live audience in school!

It has been so inspiring to see how hard the students have worked in lesson and during extra-curricular activities in preparation for the show. The students and their families should be extremely proud of themselves. I had a fantastic time at the show and I am sure I can speak for all who attended.

The dancers are looking forward to their next show already!



## Message from the Chair of Governors

Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing on behalf of the governing body to thank you for your continued support for Lightcliffe Academy during the past year, during what has been another exceptionally challenging and difficult period for the school, and, of course for you and your families. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Ms Wood-Ives and all of the staff who work at Lightcliffe for everything they have done to keep the school open, enable students to stay safe, and provide as positive a learning environment as they can.

You will be aware that academy continues to receive regular monitoring visits from Ofsted. The most recent (November) was very encouraging in terms of the progress being made in curriculum development and teaching and learning. However, there are still concerns about the behaviour of a minority of students, the homophobic attitudes among some students, and ways in which the school can ensure all students feel safe everywhere in school, all of the time. School leaders are already addressing these concerns as a matter of urgency.

An area of concern that emerged from the Ofsted parent survey was that not all parents find communication with the academy straightforward and satisfactory. I have already discussed this with school leaders, and we are actively looking at ways to improve this, both in terms of enabling parents to feel confident that they can get a swift response when they contact the academy, and also to ensure that parents and the wider community receive fuller information about what is going on at Lightcliffe, so much of which is really positive, exciting and worthy of celebration!

I would like to have an opportunity to meet with parents in the New Year to get a fuller sense of how we can support better two-way communication.

In the meantime, best wishes to you and your families for Christmas and New Year.

Peter Laurence  
Chair of Governors





***Merry Christmas and Happy New Year***

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