

Termly Newsletter

Spring Edition

Principals Welcome

As the days get longer and we enjoy the improving spring weather, we wanted to share with you some of the fantastic activities our students have been taking part in over the last term and look ahead to the busy summer term.

Term 2 has been marked by sustained effort and resilience. It has been wonderful to see students embracing new challenges, supporting one another, and making the most of the opportunities available to them both in and beyond the classroom. Our staff have, as always, worked tirelessly to every child is supported to achieve their very best.

As we now move into Term 3, our focus turns towards the important examination period and the final stretch of the academic year. We recognise that this can be a demanding time for many of our students, and we are committed to providing the guidance, encouragement and support they need to succeed. Alongside this, we look forward to the many enriching experiences that the summer term brings, as well as celebrating the achievements of all our pupils.

Thank you as always, for your continued support. We will ensure that our students approach the months ahead with confidence, determination, and a strong sense of achievement as we head towards the summer.



Kion Nikoumaram
Principal



Termly Round up

ENGLISH

Great snapshots of home learning

9X1 Homework

Students in 9X1 have been producing thoughtful and well-structured homework, demonstrating a strong understanding of key texts and themes. Their work reflects careful analysis, creativity, and a growing confidence in written expression.

Year 7 Homework Project

Year 7 students have been busy working on their Private Peaceful projects, bringing the novel to life through imaginative and engaging responses. From creative presentations to detailed written work, students have shown enthusiasm and a deepening appreciation of the text.

9X1 Analysing Homework Under the Visualiser

Students have also been developing their analytical and presentation skills by sharing their homework under the visualiser. This collaborative approach allows students to celebrate strong work, learn from each other, and build confidence in articulating their ideas.



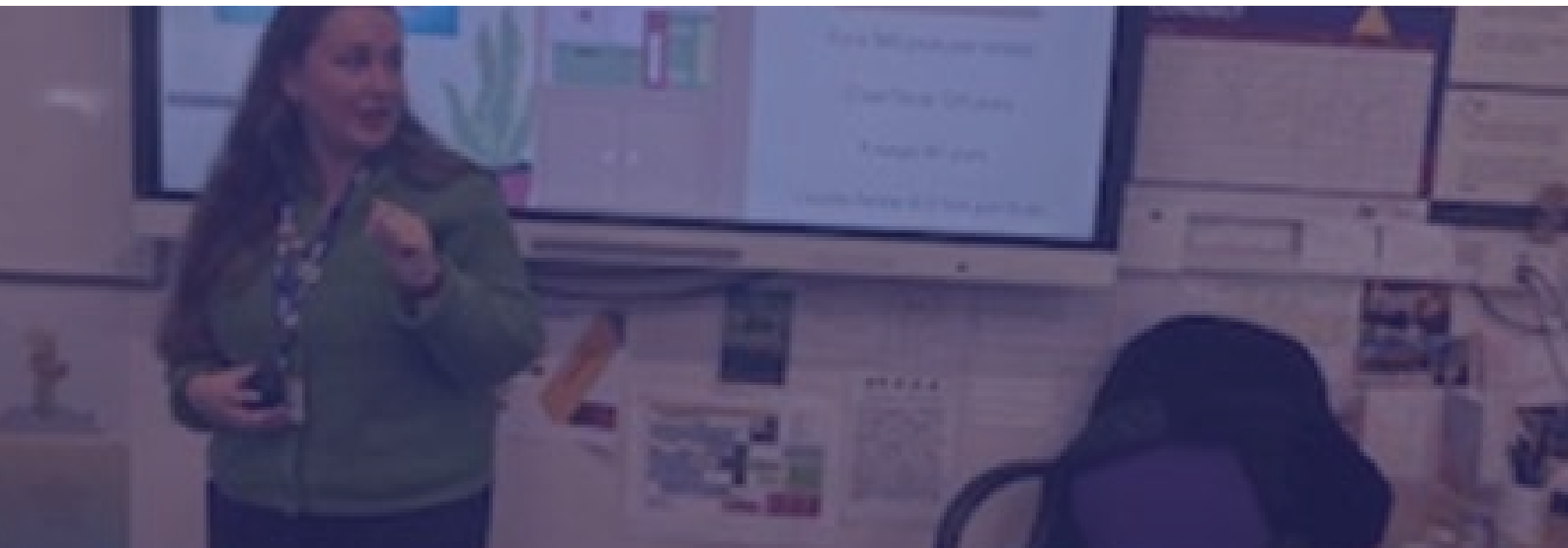
MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES



The Modern Foreign Languages department has taken time to reflect on what has been a truly positive and productive period for our students. We would especially like to recognise our Year 11 students, who have shown great determination in the lead-up to their mock examinations. Throughout the term, they have demonstrated resilience, focus, and a genuine commitment to improving their language skills. It has been particularly rewarding to see their confidence grow, with this hard work clearly reflected in their strong mock results. We are very proud of the mature and positive approach they continue to bring to their studies.

This term has also highlighted how fortunate we are to work alongside our French language assistant, Ariane, who joined us from Québec. Her contribution has been invaluable in supporting students' speaking skills, while also enriching lessons with cultural insights and real-life language experiences. Her enthusiasm has helped foster greater confidence and engagement, particularly in spoken French.

Overall, Term 2 has been a rewarding time for the department. It has been encouraging to see students growing in confidence, developing their skills, and engaging so positively with languages. We look forward to building on this progress in the term ahead.



YEAR 7 MEMORABLE EXPERIENCE

Science and Media Museum Trip

Year 7 students recently took part in an exciting and memorable science trip to the Science and Media Museum in Bradford, which linked directly to their learning about sound and light waves. During the visit, students explored a range of engaging exhibits including Wonderlab, You:Matter, the Kodak Gallery, and the Sound and Vision galleries. These experiences helped to bring key scientific concepts to life and supported students in developing a deeper understanding of how sound and light are used in the world around us.

Throughout the day, students were a credit to Manor Croft Academy. Their behaviour was exemplary, and they clearly demonstrated our core values of ambition, resilience, respect, and community. The visit provided a valuable learning opportunity and a memorable experience that will support and enrich students' science learning beyond the classroom.



PERFORMING ARTS

THE SCHOOL SHOW - CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY



Our recent school production of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory was a truly outstanding achievement and a celebration of talent, teamwork, and dedication. Following auditions back in September, a cast of 50 students committed themselves to an intensive rehearsal schedule, attending three sessions each week along with additional weekend rehearsals. Their hard work, perseverance, and enthusiasm were evident in every moment of the final performances.

The success of the show was not only due to the performers on stage but also to the team working behind the scenes. From managing scenery and props to coordinating costume, makeup, and backstage operations, our student and staff helpers ensured the production ran smoothly and professionally. Their organisation and attention to detail allowed the magic of the story to flow seamlessly for the audience.

Over three evening performances and a special matinee for one of our primary feeder schools, the cast performed to audiences of more than 500 people, including staff, students, families, and members of the wider community. The energy, confidence, and joy shown by the performers made each show a memorable experience for everyone who attended.

. A huge thank you must go to all the staff who gave their time, expertise, and encouragement to make this production possible. Opportunities like this provide students with invaluable experiences, building confidence, teamwork, resilience, and lasting memories.

This was truly amazing work from everyone involved; a production our school community can be very proud of.

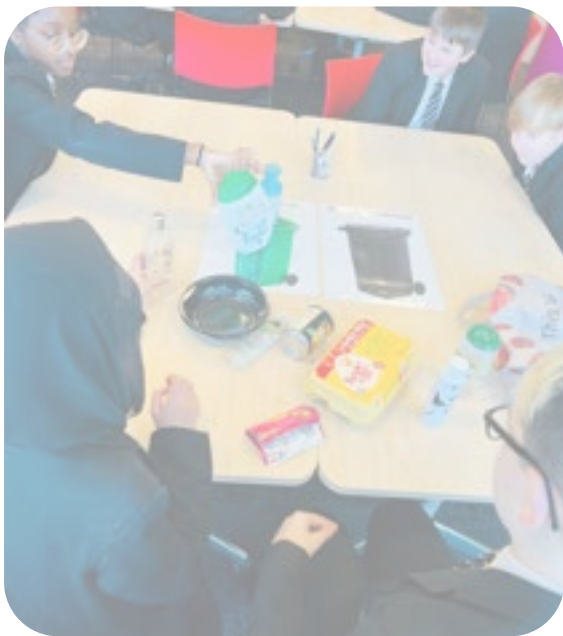


SCIENCE

RERF TRIP



Twenty-eight Year 9 students from Manor Croft Academy were rewarded for their dedication and commitment to Sparx Science with a fantastic visit to the Veolia Leeds Energy Recycling and Recovery Facility, organised by the Science Department. During the visit, pupils took part in an interactive session exploring the history and purpose of the building, learning how waste is transformed into energy that powers 22,000 homes and businesses across Leeds. They were able to see the control room in action, take part in an immersive VR experience using headsets, and enjoyed a guided tour of the largest living wall in Europe, discovering how science and sustainability work together to support urban environments.



Pupils also took part in an ecosystem's session led by Mrs Malik, exploring how the living wall provides habitats for plants, insects and birds in a busy city centre space. This linked directly to their science curriculum and helped bring classroom learning to life.

This trip reflected our school values of Community and Ambition. By engaging with real-world science and environmental sustainability, pupils demonstrated ambition in their learning and a commitment to making a positive impact on their community and the wider environment.



BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK

The Science Department at Manor Croft Academy proudly celebrated British Science Week with a range of engaging practical activities across Years 7, 8 and 9.

Throughout the week, students took part in hands-on investigations such as testing the viscosity of different liquids, exploring materials to design effective parachutes, and measuring the speed at which they fell. Alongside this, science teachers led interactive discussions on the Blue Line, where students observed cells under microscopes, identified organs using a human torso model, and built hydrocarbons using molymods. These activities highlighted the importance of British Science Week in inspiring curiosity, promoting scientific understanding, and encouraging students to see the relevance of science in the wider world.

Students showed great enthusiasm and engagement throughout, demonstrating the academy's values of ambition and resilience in their approach to learning, respect for equipment and each other, and a strong sense of community as they collaborated and shared their discoveries.





ROYAL NAVY VISIT

Year 8 students at Manor Croft Academy recently enjoyed an engaging assembly delivered by the Royal Navy, where they learned about the wide variety of careers available and the importance of attendance and hard work in achieving future success. The session strongly reinforced the academy's values of ambition and resilience, encouraging students to aim high and persevere in their learning. Following this, one Year 8 class had the opportunity to take part in an exciting STEM activity, working collaboratively to design and build the tallest tower and create a functioning windmill. They then tested their designs to see which windmill spun the fastest, bringing their learning to life. This hands-on experience highlighted the importance of STEM subjects, while also promoting teamwork, respect, and a strong sense of community as students supported one another and celebrated each other's efforts.

YEAR 8 SCIENCE COMPETITION

Some Year 8 students at Manor Croft Academy recently took part in a Delta-wide competition to design an adoption pack for an endangered animal, showcasing both their creativity and their understanding of important environmental issues. This opportunity reflected the academy's values of ambition and resilience, as students worked hard to produce thoughtful and high-quality entries, as well as respect for the natural world and a sense of community in supporting a global cause. We are particularly proud that Dakota achieved 3rd prize across the whole of Delta Academies Trust for her outstanding submission, which explored a range of endangered, including the Sumatran Rhino.





YEAR 9 MEMORABLE EXPERIENCE

All Year 9 students enjoyed an exciting and educational trip to Manchester, where they took part in a guided tour of the Etihad Stadium. One of the highlights of the visit was exploring the players' changing rooms, which the students particularly loved, giving them a real behind-the-scenes experience of a professional football club.

The trip also included a visit to the Imperial War Museum North, where students were able to link their learning in both Geography and History. A standout feature was the interactive spy room, where they explored real equipment used in espionage. This part of the visit captured everyone's interest and sparked curiosity about historical events and intelligence work.

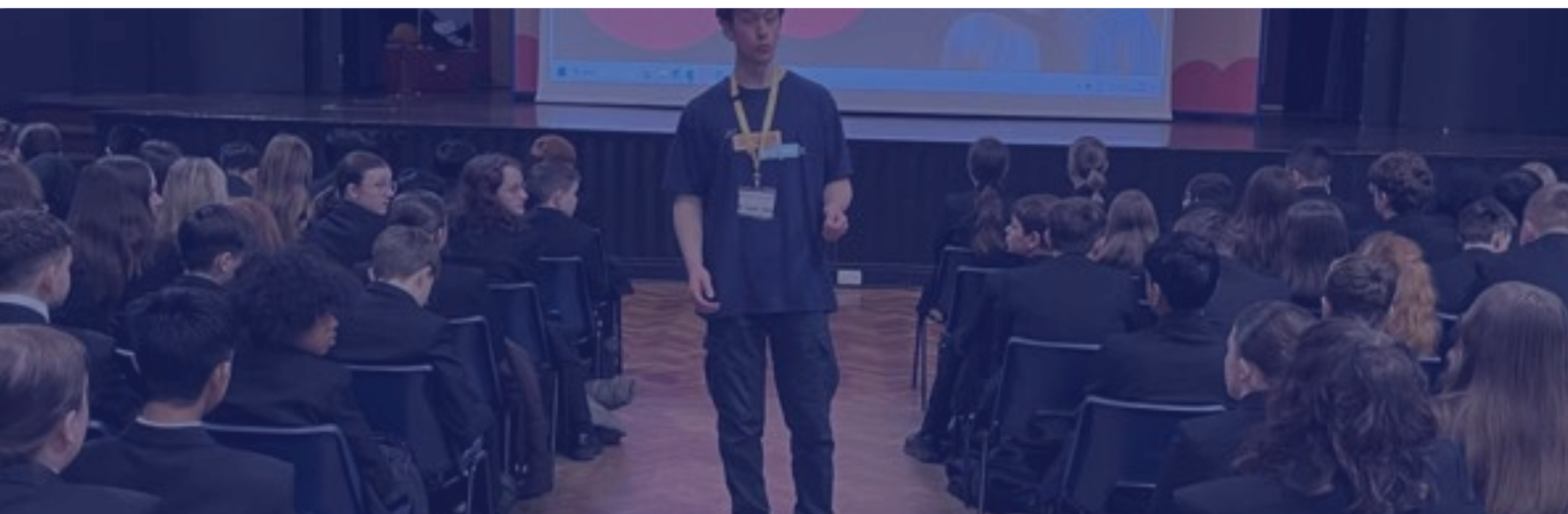
Throughout the day, Year 9 students represented the academy exceptionally well, demonstrating enthusiasm, respect, and excellent behaviour.

EPC

In February, our Year 8 students took part in the engaging and thought-provoking "Smashed" workshop, focusing on alcohol awareness.

The session combined live performance with interactive discussion, encouraging students to reflect on the impact alcohol can have on decision-making, relationships, and future opportunities. Through relatable characters and realistic scenarios, students explored the pressures young people may face and considered strategies for making safe and informed choices.

Students responded maturely and thoughtfully throughout, contributing to discussions and asking insightful questions. The workshop provided a valuable opportunity to build awareness, confidence, and resilience when faced with real-life situations.





PHYSICAL EDUCATION

SPORTS LEADERS

This year has seen the return of our very popular sports leader's programme. The programme sees a group of Y10 Health and Fitness students take on the additional responsibility of being sports leaders. This involves them working closely with PE staff to assist with extra-curricular clubs and fixtures throughout the year. The team have been a credit to the Academy so far and have shown excellent commitment to their roles.

The PE Department and Academy are very proud to run such a successful and engaging programme to help our young leaders develop further.

Sports leaders this year are:

Sophie P, Daisy W, Amelia L, Llana M, Evie T, Lance M, Daood A, Harris J, Jacob J, Keigan R, Oscar P, Toby S.

FOOTBALL UPDATE - SPEN VALLEY CUP

It was Y7's first year in the Spen Valley Cup. The two teams they drew in the group were Upper Batley High School and Heckmondwike Grammar School. In their first fixture as a squad, the Year 7 boys battled for a 1-1 draw with Heckmondwike Grammar School. Ed B getting on the score sheet. After a strong first performance Y7 boys played their second Spen Valley Cup game vs Upper Batley High School. The boys came to make a statement and that's what they did, winning 8-1. Abdullah P scoring 4 and claiming POM. This puts MCA top of the table waiting for the other teams to play.



FOOTBALL UPDATE - SPEN VALLEY CUP



The Y8 boys football team looked to challenge themselves this year playing in the Premier cup competition. The two teams in their group are Whitcliffe Mount Academy and Spen Valley High School. Unfortunately, in their first match they came up second best losing 4-1 to WMA, Ethan C grabbing himself a goal and POM. Y8's look to get their first win in the upcoming weeks vs Spen Valley High School.



Y9 looked to carry on their good form from last year in the Spen Valley Cup in their first fixture vs St John Fishers. Putting on a great performance Y9 won their first fixture 5-2. Great performances all round, Leyton E claimed POM. Next up was Whitcliffe Mount Academy, Y9 Boys were looking for revenge after losing last year. After a tight game both teams shared the points in a 2-2 draw. Archie F with a great defensive performance got POM.



The girls' U13 and U15 teams once again competed in the annual Spen Valley tournament this year. Some excellent individual performances throughout but unfortunately they were not able to come away with the win.



Y10 had a strong start to their Spen Valley Cup campaign beating St John Fishers 4-0! Owen W scoring all 4 goals and claiming POM. Unfortunately, Thornhill Academy had to pull out of their next fixture giving MCA the 3-0 win and all 3 points. Y10 look to finish their group stage strong vs Westborough High School in the upcoming weeks.



RUGBY SEASON ROUND-UP



POTM:

William J (Outwood Freeston), Jacob D (Sirius, Brooksbank), Oliver L-M (Airedale)

Y7

The Year 7 team performed strongly in the Kirklees qualifiers, drawing 10–10 with St John Fisher before beating Salendine Nook (28–4) and Holmfirth (26–4) to reach the Yorkshire Cup. In the group stage, they lost to Sirius Academy West (32–10), beat Brooksbank (24–8), and defeated Airedale (28–22) to finish 2nd and reach the knockouts. Despite a resilient effort, they lost 24–6 to Outwood Freeston in the quarter-finals.

They now move into the Yorkshire Plate quarter-finals.

Y8

The Year 8 team dominated the qualifiers, beating St John Fisher (40–0) and MFG (14–4).

In the Yorkshire Cup, they beat Outwood Freeston (20–4) but lost to Malet Lambert (22–14). Their final group game was cancelled, but they advanced in 2nd place. They were then defeated by Brooksbank (38–4) in the quarter-finals.

In the Yorkshire Plate, they beat Sherburn High School (42–24) and will face Outwood Freeston in the quarter-finals.

POTM: George Hancock (all matches)



Y9

The Year 9 team, with an under-strength squad, recorded one draw and two losses in the qualifiers. They later lost to Shelley College in the Yorkshire Plate.

They will next compete in a rugby 7's tournament in May.

POTM:

Archie Foster (Qualifiers), Joshua McLaughlin (Shelley College)



STAFF FAST

Manor Croft Academy also marked the month of Ramadan with a meaningful staff fast, during which over 30 students chose to take part in fasting to better understand its purpose and significance. This initiative strongly reflected the academy's value of community, as students and staff came together in a shared experience that promoted respect, understanding and reflection.



The school was honoured to welcome local MP Iqbal Mohammed, who visited to see the positive impact of the staff fast on students and the wider school community. He also led a thoughtful Q&A session, speaking about his role as an MP and inviting students to ask questions, which he committed to taking forward to Parliament. To support colleagues observing the fast, staff received bespoke iftar packs prepared by fellow staff members, which they could take away to break their fast at the appropriate time. The day was filled with meaningful conversations between staff and students, highlighting the values of respect, ambition, resilience and community, and reinforcing the importance of understanding and celebrating different cultures within the academy.



CAREERS WEEK

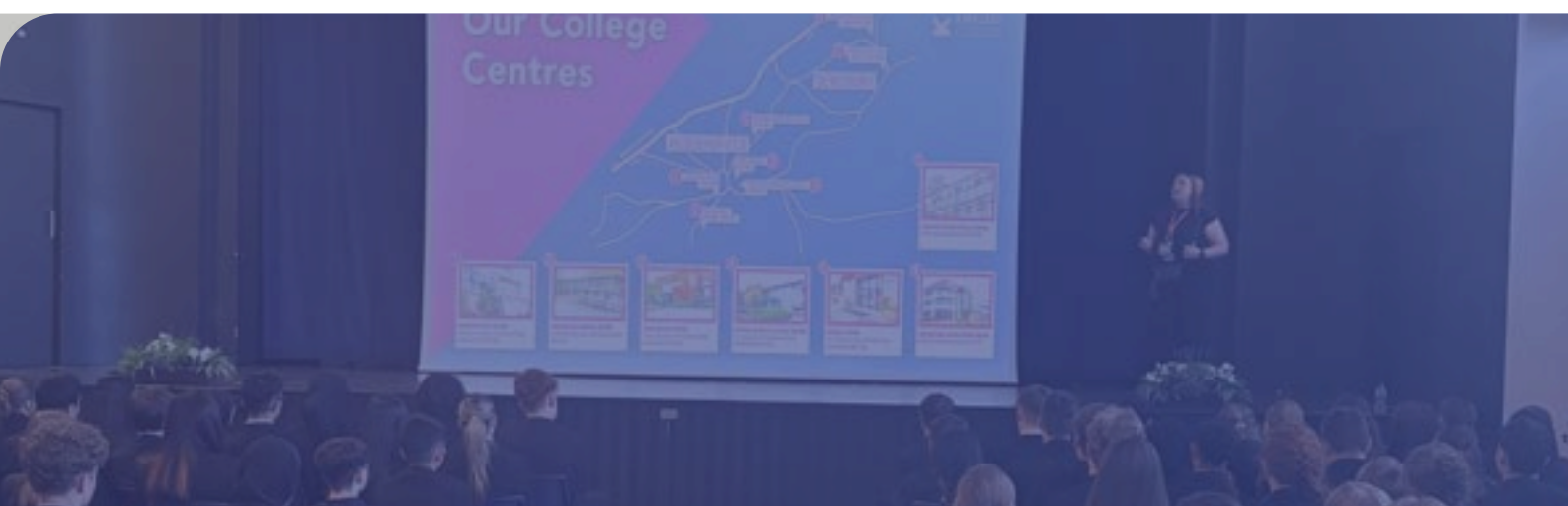
External speakers and workshops

Careers Week at Manor Croft Academy was a fantastic success, offering students a wide range of opportunities to explore future pathways and gain valuable insight into the world of work.

Throughout the week, staff across the school shared their own career journeys and highlights on their classroom doors. This provided students with a unique opportunity to learn about the diverse routes into different professions and sparked many meaningful conversations.

The enrichment partnership led insightful sessions focusing on how to become an entrepreneur. These workshops encouraged students to think creatively, develop innovative ideas, and gain a deeper understanding of the skills needed to succeed in business.

Year 10 students benefited from a series of focused activities designed to support their next steps. They took part in a CV writing workshop, helping them to develop essential employability skills, and attended an informative assembly delivered by Kirklees College on post-16 options. In addition, students participated in hands-on workshops in Health and Social Care, Art and Design, and Joinery and Construction. These practical experiences were a real highlight of the week, with students thoroughly enjoying the opportunity to try out new skills.





CAREERS WEEK CONTINUED..

Year 9 Speed Networking

Year 9 students were involved in our first ever Speed Networking Event, which proved to be both exciting and inspiring. Professionals from a range of fields; including an entrepreneur, an architect, and a doctor who is also a former Manor Croft student. They shared their experiences and answered thoughtful questions about their career paths, training, and skill sets. The event helped students gain a deeper understanding of the wide variety of opportunities available to them.

Medical Mavericks

To round off the week, Year 9 students took part in a Medical Mavericks session, where they explored careers in the NHS and healthcare through interactive activities and demonstrations.

Overall, Careers Week was a highly successful and inspiring event. It was wonderful to see students so engaged, curious, and enthusiastic about their futures.



HEADTEACHERS AWARD

CELEBRATING SUCCESS WITH 150+ TRI-STARS

The Headteacher's Breakfast recognised 61 students from Years 7–9 who have each achieved over 150 tri-stars. This is a strong reflection of their consistent effort and positive approach to school. All students received certificates to acknowledge their achievement. It was great to bring together such a large group of students who are doing well and setting a good example.

A really positive event, and a well-deserved recognition of their hard work.



SILVER PLEDGE & 98% ATTENDANCE REWARDS

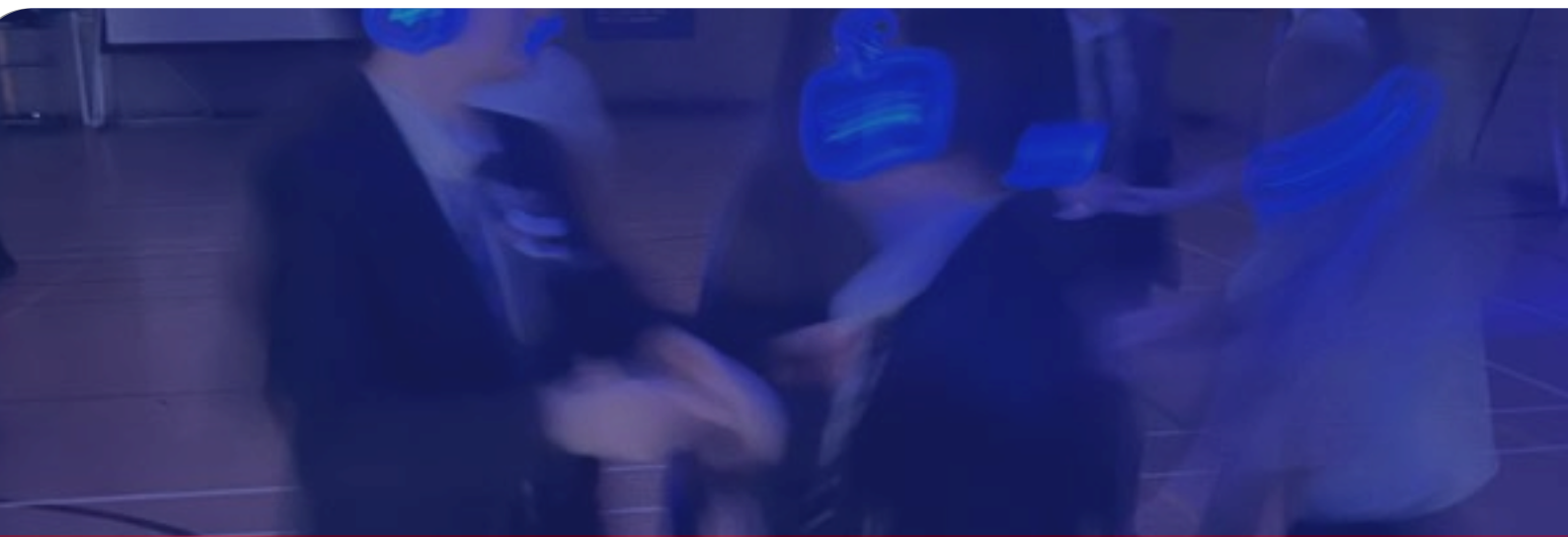
SILENT DISCO AND BINGO

Students at Manor Croft Academy recently enjoyed a lively silent disco as a reward for achieving at least a silver pledge, recognising their commitment to the academy's pledge system and strong attendance. Students at Manor Croft Academy recently enjoyed a silent disco as a reward for achieving at least a silver pledge, recognising their commitment to the academy's pledge system, which promotes positive behaviour, strong attendance, and focus on learning. Alongside the disco, students also took part in bingo, with a range of prizes available.



In total, 267 students took part across the year groups. Year 7 had the highest number with 93 students (53 for attendance and 40 for pledges), followed by Year 10 with 63 students (50 attendance and 13 pledges), Year 8 with 62 students (40 attendance and 22 pledges), and Year 9 with 49 students (38 attendance and 11 pledges).

The event provided a fantastic opportunity for students to celebrate their achievements alongside their peers, creating a vibrant and inclusive atmosphere filled with music and enthusiasm. In addition to the silent disco, students also took part in an exciting session of bingo, where they had the chance to win a variety of prizes, further adding to the sense of celebration and reward for their hard work





PARIS TRIP!

Our recent four-day trip to Paris was an unforgettable adventure packed with excitement, laughter, and amazing experiences. A group of 100 students travelled together by coach and ferry, with plenty of fun along the way as everyone got into the spirit of the trip.

Our day in Paris was full of highlights. Students took on the challenge of climbing the Eiffel Tower by stairs which was no easy task, but definitely worth it for the incredible views over the city! We then slowed things down with a relaxing boat trip along the Seine, where the sun made a perfectly timed appearance and everyone enjoyed spotting famous Parisian landmarks from the water. The day ended in the historical area of Montmartre, where students saw the Sacre Coeur, explored the streets, picked up souvenirs, and treated themselves to delicious crêpes and hot chocolate.

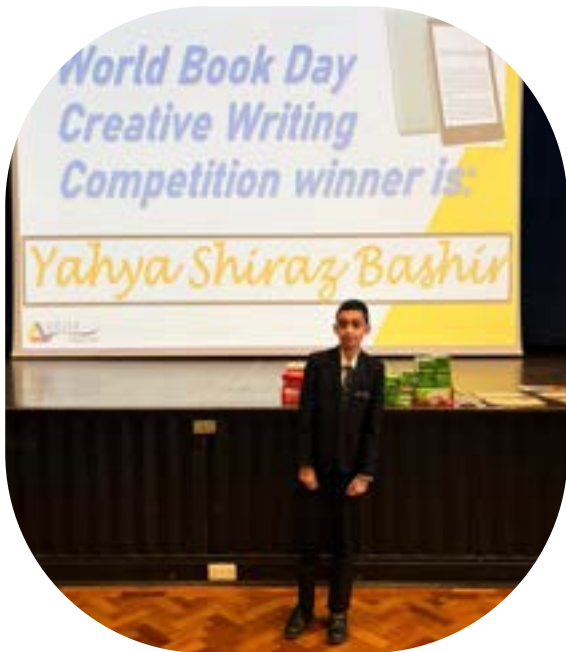
Day two brought even more excitement with a visit to Disneyland! Students had a fantastic time experiencing the rides, embracing the atmosphere, and, of course, buying plenty of Disney merchandise. It was a day full of thrills, smiles, and unforgettable moments. Overall, the trip was a huge success. Students had an amazing time and represented the school brilliantly throughout. Their enthusiasm, behaviour, and positive attitude made us incredibly proud. It's safe to say this is a trip that will be talked about for a long time!



CELEBRATION REWARDS BEFORE EASTER BREAK

Before the Easter break, all year groups took part in our celebration rewards assemblies, recognising students for their efforts and achievements over the term. Awards were given for Tri-Stars, Form Group, Proud, Homework, and Reading, reflecting success across different areas of school life. Over 200 certificates were handed out which is fantastic!

This year also saw the introduction of a new Value Award. Staff nominated students who have consistently demonstrated the school's values of resilience, ambition, respect, and community. The new award was well received and highlighted students who set a strong example for others. Well done to all students who received awards for their hard work this term.



YEAR 11 REWARDS EVENING

CELEBRATING SUCCESS AHEAD OF GCSEs.

Manor Croft Academy recently hosted a fantastic Year 11 Rewards Evening, bringing together students, staff, and families to celebrate the achievements of the cohort as they approach their GCSEs.

The evening recognised students' hard work and commitment, with final mock exam results shared as an important milestone on the journey to summer examinations. It was a valuable opportunity for families to come together, reflect on progress, and look ahead with optimism and determination.



There was much to celebrate, with students praised for their resilience, dedication, and positive attitudes throughout the year. Staff highlighted that these results mark just the beginning, encouraging students to keep pushing forward, aim high, and continue believing in their abilities.

The event was also a chance to thank families and carers for their ongoing support, which plays a vital role in student success. With momentum building and confidence growing, Year 11 now moves forward focused and ready for the challenges ahead.



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TCS MINI LONDON MARATHON COMES TO OUR ACADEMY!

We are excited to be taking part in the TCS Mini London Marathon during the week commencing 20th April 2026, with students from Year 7 to Year 10 getting involved through their PE lessons.

As part of this nationwide initiative, students will complete a 2-mile run, challenging themselves both physically and mentally while being part of something much bigger across schools in the UK. It's a fantastic opportunity to promote resilience, ambition and community, values we are proud to embed across our academy.

There is also a competitive element to the event. The fastest times across Delta Academies Trust will be recognised with prizes, celebrating outstanding performance and commitment. Within our own academy, the fastest student will earn a place in our history and have their achievement commemorated with a trophy.

We are incredibly proud of all students taking part and look forward to seeing them push themselves, support one another, and embrace the challenge.

Good luck to everyone involved!



Key dates in Term 3 HT5



- 22.04.26 - 'Red Shoes' Theatre Trip
- 24.04.26 - Leeds Rhino Netball Trip
- 05.05.26 - Year 11 GCSE Exams start
- 07.05.26 - Year 10 Humanities Trip
- 18.05.26 - Year 9 Prison Me No Way
- 19.05.26 - Year 8 HPV Immunisations



Manor Croft Academy

SAFEGUARDING TEAM



If you're feeling:

- Worried or concerned
- Scared or anxious
- Lonely or left out
- Upset about something that's happened
- Unable to eat or sleep properly
- Confused, guilty or unsure

You are not in trouble. You don't have to deal with it alone.

These are the safeguarding leads people who can help:



Mrs Frizzel
Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Laverick
Vice Principal



Mrs Simpson
Inclusion Manager



Mr Harmer
Assistant Principal



Mrs Raje
Learning Manager



Manor Croft Academy

STUDENT WELFARE



EXTERNAL AGENCIES:

- www.parentsprotect.co.uk
- www.childline.org.uk
- http://www.youngminds.org.uk/for_parents/parent_helpine
- <https://www.kooth.com/>
- <https://www.childbereavementuk.org/>



NIGHT OWLS
Evening West Yorkshire Learning/Advice Service

Night OWLS is a confidential support line for children and young people in crisis. Helping them, their parents and carers living in Bradford, Leeds, Calderdale, Kirkstoes and Wakefield.

We're available
8pm – 8am

Call this number for free:
0300 2003900

Text us on:
07984 392700

Chat to us on:
wynightowls.org.uk



Whole School Attendance



Year 7 - 93.8%

Year 8 - 92.3%

Year 9 - 89.3%

Year 10 - 89.1%

Year 11 - 89.1%



Attendance Matters



Manor Croft Academy, we believe that every day in school is a step toward a brighter future. Attendance is more than just being present. It's about being part of a community, engaging in learning, and unlocking potential.

Each lesson builds on the last, every conversation sparks new ideas, and every shared experience strengthens confidence. When pupils attend regularly, they not only keep up with their learning but also develop friendships, resilience, and a sense of belonging that supports their overall wellbeing.

We understand that there can be challenges along the way, and we are here to support every family. By working together, we can ensure that every child has the opportunity to thrive, achieve, and feel proud of their journey.

Let's continue to make attendance a priority because every day really does count.

Links

- [Academy Website](#)
- [Enquiries Email](#)
- [Our X Account](#)
- [Careers Pathway](#)
- [Academy Day](#)



