



# Welcome to Range REVIEW

## Celebrating Success



Welcome to the  
Spring edition of our  
community newsletter.  
It includes celebrations  
of the incredible opportunities available  
to our students during the last term.



We are very proud of the fantastic attitude and effort that our students demonstrate in their school life and as always, are very grateful to all of the adults in school who, through their hard work and commitment, are able to support these enriching opportunities.

You'll find updates on our new catering provider, as well as our achievement of One Education's Gold Reading Award and you can learn more about the range of activities that our students have been involved in including world languages activities, embracing difference through religious studies and our usual wide variety of sporting events.

I hope you enjoy reading more about our school.

Mrs J Fahey  
Academy Headteacher

FOLLOW US



@wrhs1118



whalleyrangehighschool



www.wrhs1118.co.uk

New



# SCHOOL CATERING

provider

Innovate



We're delighted to announce that from April 2024 we will partner with Innovate, who will work with our existing catering staff to provide an exceptional catering experience. The team will be serving exciting menus packed with healthy ingredients, that are full of variety, and with lots of interesting new things to try. It's important that the food tastes as good as it looks, and we're sure our students (and staff) won't be disappointed.

## What's on the menu?

Innovate has long been considered the most inventive school caterer and that's because they're very clear about their food. All dishes will be prepared every day using quality, fresh and seasonal ingredients that are responsibly sourced. As well as ensuring the food on the plate is healthy.

## Here's a taste of what's to come:

- A huge selection of 'grab and go' items including baguettes, paninis, burritos and salads to name a few, all using a barcode system to help speed up the queues.
- A variety of healthy, tasty main meals prepared fresh every day from carefully selected ingredients. The menu will follow a similar weekly pattern, so students will know what to expect, providing over 35 choices each day in addition to the ever-popular chef specials, fortnightly themed events and loyalty schemes.
- The Street Vibes range, global street food that tours the world. This will always change; from Korean fried chicken, Chinese bao buns, to Greek souvlaki, so there's always something new to try!
- A salad bar bursting with homemade healthy salads such as pomegranate quinoa, roasted sweet potato and rocket, or chilli, orange and beetroot. All pre-boxed and ready to be collected.
- Theme days including Chinese New Year, American Drive-Thru, BBQ Beach Party, Harry Potter, and Love British Food Fortnight, and many more.



## What meal deals are available?

The most popular meal deal offered by Innovate is the Blue Dot meal deal at £2.50.

Students can choose any 4 items (usually 80p each) displaying a blue dot sticker. Items include selected rolls, sandwiches, drinks, cakes and tray bakes, fruit bags, and more!

The Blue Dot meal deal is also available to students who have a Free School Meal allowance.

## I have a free school meal allowance, what can I have?

We want to ensure that all students have access to a healthy nutritious meal and we invite anyone with a Free School Meal allowance to select any items up to the daily allowance. We will ask that this includes a hot main meal, hot wrap, baguette or other nutritious snack plus either a hot pudding, fruit pot or freshly-made cake. Students can also choose to switch the pudding for a drink, if they'd prefer.

## Sharing feedback

Once your daughter has tried the new service, let the team know what they think. Drop them an email at [hello@impactfood.co.uk](mailto:hello@impactfood.co.uk) to tell them about your daughter's experience. Innovate are always happy to receive feedback on the service.



# Whalley Range Achieves the One Education Reading Award (Gold)



We are delighted to announce that we have achieved the One Education Reading Award (at GOLD level), for our commitment towards building a successful reading curriculum.

The One Education Reading Award is a comprehensive assessment of how a school improves the reading for all of its students. The award looks at the whole school reading curriculum, continuing professional development for staff, disciplinary literacy and specific reading strategies, and ways in which students' opportunities to read have improved.

Achieving this award at the gold level is testament to the hard work which goes on every day in school, from all members of staff, in supporting students

developing their reading ability and their enjoyment of reading.

*"Reading is such a fundamental life skill, so we are honoured for the school to be recognised for its excellence in supporting students to improve in their reading, as well as developing a love for reading too."*

Mr Parker, Assistant Headteacher



## WHALLEY RANGE ALUMNA APPOINTED AS PREMIER LEAGUE COMMUNITY CAPTAIN

Former student Arissa, was actively involved with the Manchester United Foundation whilst here at Whalley Range and since leaving, has continued to play a key role in the organisation. In recognition of her dedication, she was presented with the Community Captain's armband and pennant by none other than Bruno Fernandes himself!

Arissa, a previous Whalley Range High School student, has completely turned her life around in the past four years after initially being referred to the Foundation's targeted prevention programme in school where she would take part in workshops and personal development. This transitioned to Arissa joining a Street Reds session in Moss Side, using her love of football to develop her confidence and leadership skills.

It was with this support, that Arissa really began to raise her aspirations and make decisions that would give her a better outlook in life. This includes joining the Foundation's Youth Board where she has been a part of social action projects and discussions around youth violence with dignitaries from Greater Manchester Police, Salford Council, and presenting to Greater Manchester Mayor, Andy Burnham.

At the end of 2023, Arissa was successful in joining the Street Games Youth Advisory Board as an advisor, inputting to national policy around youth community sport and engagement.

### Thrilled at receiving this award, Arissa said:

*It's been amazing to be here, meet Bruno and receive this award; it means a lot to me. Manchester United Foundation is not just football, it's a safe space for a lot of kids. I've always said if I can help a kid like I was helped I think I'd be very grateful.*

### Inspired by their interaction, Bruno said:

*It's been a pleasure to meet Arissa and hear all about her journey with the Foundation. It's amazing what programmes like these can do for young people in the local community and how it can*

*literally change their life. This is what Manchester United is about, supporting young people and being there for our communities and fans. I'm sure Arissa will go on to do great things in her life and I'm fortunate to present her with this award.*

### Arissa continued:

*Back when I was in school, I was taking everything for granted, but if you look in the right places there are opportunities, and I want to be that person to bring even more opportunities into the community. It's also helped my own mindset; my mum and dad are always pushing me to come to the projects, I think without them and the Foundation, my life could have taken a whole different path. United and the Foundation is that staple in the community.*



# El Día de los Muertos

(the day of the dead)

The language leaders organised El Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead).

This was a fun experience enjoyed by many of the Year 7s. We shared some key information about El día de los Muertos and students decorated skull cookies, made beautiful paper flowers, papel picado and coloured in some skulls.



Around 30 people came to celebrate with us, it was a very exciting experience. Everyone enjoyed it, including the language leaders. Some key information about El Día De Los Muertos is that people in Mexico celebrate it to remember those who have died, so they are not forgotten.

Hawa, Year 7

Although I did not participate in El día de Los muertos on the day of the event, I greatly enjoyed the preparations before then as I learned a lot about the cultural significance of the event. It was so interesting to learn that the dead are celebrated in such a way, in Mexican culture.

Mushda, Year 11



# LE HAVRE

## HOME CINEMA

### Review

On 29th November 2023 to complement their French course, a group of Year 10 students visited HOME Cinema, with Miss Boulesteix and Miss Sevellec.

The students attended a French GCSE study morning, to give them the opportunity to see a film in French and discuss its plot and characters. Isabelle Vanderschelden introduced the film, Le Havre, in French and occasionally in English and provided background information and vocabulary on the main themes of the film (family, migration). The screening was followed by language exercises in French to practice structures and vocabulary that are useful for describing the main characters and the film's settings. Students were also encouraged to comment on the film's style and express critical opinions.

Our students tried hard to answer the questions from their booklet and were very engaged!



"The movie was great and it was nice to see other schools there."



"It was interesting, and I really enjoyed the acting, but it was really hard to understand it!"



"I enjoyed the movie. It was a bit odd because I hadn't watched a French film like that or in general. And it was good to be with other schools as well."

"The movie was interesting but hard to understand. It was fun going to the cinema and watching a French film."







# Sikh

## visited our school!



This was an amazing opportunity as the whole of Year 7 got to learn about the Sikh religion from Sikhs. They showed us Sikh things that they use in everyday life.

In our Religious Studies, we have been learning about Sikhism, so a visit from a person who is part of that religion gave us a new perspective. Learning about these religions has really expanded our view on diverse cultures.

One important thing about Sikhs is that they never cut their hair and instead they keep their hair up and wrapped in something called a Turban. Boys and men do not cut their beards or any facial hair.

All these things about Sikhs made me feel unique as I am different from them as my religion is Islam.

Some of the interesting questions were, 'How often do you need to go to a gurdwara?' 'Who created the 5 Ks?' and 'do you have to be baptised to be Sikh?'

I would recommend other visitors to come to our school because it is a great chance to understand different topics to a further level. At first, I had lots of questions and didn't understand some of their beliefs but now I respect it.

**Daisy and Tala, Year 7**



# Drama

## NEWS

### ON THE STAGE

Photos have arrived from The Shakespeare Schools festival at The Contact Theatre. Here's a sneak peek of the girls in action at The Contact Theatre. What a special experience it was, well done to all cast members involved...It's a unique and magical thing to be part of!



Rayyaan Ahmed and Alice Rawlinson

### YEAR 7 PANTOMIME PERFORMANCE

Year 7s were exploring Pantomime in their Drama lessons last term; it has been a real pleasure to see students having fun with this exaggerated style of acting. I always feel this particular scheme of work encourages students to really 'come out of their shell'. Some students enjoyed it so much that they were keen to share their performances on the school stage in assemblies. Well done to the following students who have given up their own lunch and after school time to prepare for the stage...

**Jana, Khadija, Asia, Asma, Saberina, Rayyaan, Malaika, Alayna and Alice.**

### GCSE DRAMA

The year 10 GCSE Drama rehearsals are in full swing in preparation for the students' Devised performance assessment. I have been blown away by their maturity and investment during lessons when exploring some sensitive and powerful themes. Their first GCSE exam performance will be shared with an audience after Easter, who I'm sure will be very moved by their work. Good luck to the following girls... Naema, Ilmaan, Fatima, Sura, Diya, Chawan, Sama, Narmeen, Faizah, Zaineb, Maryam and Hadia.

### THE DRAMA BADGE GOES TO...

Drama badges are given to students who have really pushed themselves out of their comfort zone throughout the term. The winner this term is a student who has been a pleasure to teach and so inspiring to other students in lessons. She has been such a supportive and creative ensemble member and has also entertained the class with her fantastic acting skills. Her performance skills have developed so much through her focus and perseverance, well done to Saberina, keep up the fabulous work!



WORLD  
**BOOK  
DAY**

7 MARCH 2024

# Promoting a Love of Reading for Students



**As part of the school's focus on promoting reading for pleasure, we relish the opportunity to celebrate World Book Day. This involves staff dressing up as their favourite characters to promote discussions around reading for pleasure and lots of competitions in which students can take part.**

Fewer than 1 in 2 (47.8%) children aged 8 to 18 said they enjoyed reading in 2022. This is on par with those recorded in early 2020, previously the lowest level since students were first asked the question in 2005. World Book Day is a highly successful and recognised initiative to combat the decline in students' reading for pleasure – and Whalley Range High School is proud to celebrate reading for pleasure alongside 1000s of other schools nationally.

As well as providing every student in main school with a book token for a book of their choice, over the course of the day students had the chance to take part in lots of exciting activities and competitions to encourage them to engage with reading for pleasure:

## FORM TIME QUIZ

Students had to identify the members of staff reading, either from recognising their voice or from a picture where their faces were hidden by a book.

## A READATHON AT LUNCH

Mrs Wicikowski provided a quiet place for students to come and read their books and score points for their form.

## TREASURE HUNT

Members of staff wore lanyards with book clues for students to collect during the day and/or dressed up as their favourite characters. Students completed a treasure hunt to collect as many of the lanyard clues as possible to be entered into a prize draw to win prizes. This encouraged staff to promote their love of reading with the students and inspire their students to read the books they were promoting.

## BOOKMARKS AND LRC COMPETITIONS

Students were also encouraged to attend the library to take part in competitions and students had the opportunity to create their own bookmark.



“Overall the day was a huge success with a real buzz created about reading around the school. It was great to see students engaging in discussions around reading and enjoying the chance to take part in book-related competitions. World Book Day forms an important part of our constant drive on reading for pleasure, which is celebrated throughout the year.”

**Mr Parker, Assistant Headteacher (KS3 Curriculum and Whole-school Literacy)**



# MULTICULTURAL DAY

2024

**On Friday 16th February 2024, we held our annual Multicultural Day, celebrating the diversity of our whole school community. Students and staff dressed in clothing that they associate with their culture, embracing national, international, and local heritage.**

It was incredible to see our amazing students & staff embracing and celebrating the diversity of our whole school community. This annual event is very important to us, as cultural celebrations foster respect and open-mindedness for other cultures. Celebrating our differences, as well as our common interests, helps unite and educate us.

Gratitude and cultural diversity are two essential elements that contribute to the richness and vibrancy of our society. By recognising and valuing the unique contributions of each culture, we can foster empathy, dismantle prejudices, and build bridges of understanding.



Multicultural Day is so important at Whalley Range. We are a school blessed with so much diversity, which fosters inclusivity and helps students appreciate different cultures. Every year, we build joyful memories of cultural exchange, deeper understanding, and vibrant celebration of our school community.

**Miss Bakare, Assistant Headteacher**



I am assuming the pupils dressed in their traditional dress were from your school this morning?! It was fantastic to see the different colours, flags and styles. It made my commute much more enjoyable. Everyone looks so happy! Well done Whalley Range, it was great to see!

**A member of the local community**







# DUKE OF EDINBURGH

2023  
2024

This year's Duke of Edinburgh's award is in full swing, with year 12s already completing their silver practice expedition in November.

**In December we enjoyed two presentation afternoons with the Year 11s receiving their awards for last year.**

A majority of our year 11 students received a range of certificates including around 150 students achieving their full Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's award. We were pleased to welcome Daniel Broadist from Northwest Duke of Edinburgh who presented the certificates and was very pleased to see the continued hard work of our students to achieve their awards. Well done year 11.

**This year's award is also ready to go with 185 year 10s signed up to complete their expedition this year. The students have been completing their training for the expeditions in lessons and have been practicing their skills with trips to Alexandra Park to apply their navigation skills before their practice walks in May and final expeditions in July. We look forward to celebrating their successes in future editions.**



PE

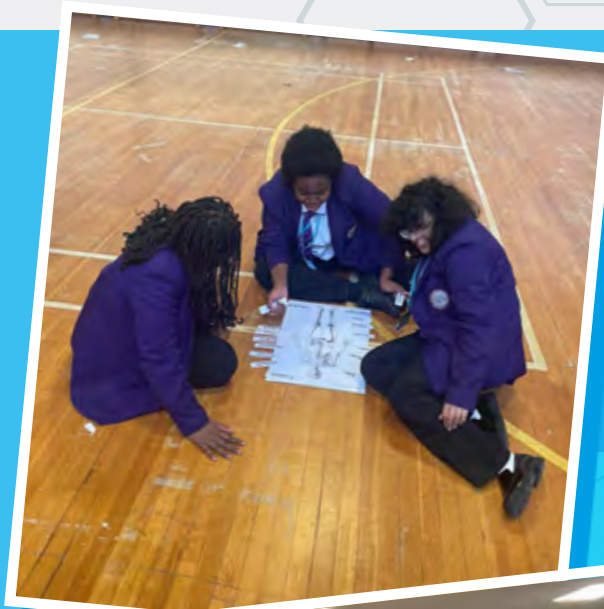
## SPORT REPORT



### YEAR 9 TASTER SESSIONS

**Year 9 had an introduction to the accredited courses in PE and learned about the content of both GCSE and Cambridge National Sport Studies.**

Students participated in a carousel of activities to gain an insight into what these courses would be like. Students took part in the Skeletal System – labelling the skeleton and looking at the functions of the skeleton, drugs in sport and how athletes are influenced including the positive and negative effects of drugs. Students also had a fitness induction in the fitness centre, looking at barriers and solutions to why people do not take part in sport. These were a fantastic couple of days in PE lessons and students thoroughly enjoyed the sessions.





PE

# SPORT REPORT



## YEAR 7 ATHLETICS MCR SCHOOLS EVENT



**In January, the Year 7 Athletics team enjoyed their first event at Sportcity.**

This was an excellent learning experience, and a few of the team placed 4th in their individual events.

A special mention to Alaa, who won a silver medal in the long jump.

**Well done to the whole team, Miss Neal and the PE department are very proud of their efforts.**



### KS4 BADMINTON SINGLES

**This year Whalley Range competed in the KS4 badminton girls' singles and our student Ashleigh gave an outstanding performance throughout the matches against several schools in the local area.**

Ashleigh showed great determination, resilience, and sportsmanship and was awarded 1st place in the KS4 badminton girls' singles.

**Well done Ashleigh, well deserved.**



**WELL DONE!**



### BASKETBALL

**Basketball continues to be a popular extra-curricular activity choice this year and has provided the opportunity for students to represent the school at either Key Stage 3 (Year 7-9) or Key Stage 4 (Year 10 & 11).**

We have the privilege of being able to host half termly tournaments for students to practice their skills against other schools across the city. Both KS3 and KS4 have improved well over the course of the year, and this can be seen in the improving results and new students joining in.

**Well done everyone, we're looking forward to seeing more students after school on Thursdays from 3-4pm.**



PE

# SPORT REPORT



## INTERHOUSE BASKETBALL

**In February, we held our third Interhouse competition of the year.**

This term's sport was basketball; we saw a week of fun, and competitive games where every student in the school participated in the events.

Congratulations to the overall winning house: Germain. There are still two more events and Sports Day to look forward to.

**The competition is heating up!**



## YEAR 10 CAMBRIDGE NATIONAL

### LEADERSHIP

**The Year 10 Cambridge National Sports Studies students have recently showcased their skills by planning and delivering engaging netball sessions to Year 7 classes. This formed part of their Sports Studies qualification, providing the students with practical, hands-on experience in coaching and leadership.**

The students demonstrated confidence and organisation as they took charge of the netball lessons. From warm-ups to progressive drills, the aspiring leaders meticulously designed their sessions to ensure a blend of fun and learning. They guided the Year 7 students through various aspects of netball, fostering a positive and inclusive environment.

Feedback from the Year 7 participants echoed the success of the Year 10 leaders, with many expressing their enjoyment of the sessions. The enthusiasm of the leaders not only enhanced their understanding of netball fundamentals but also ignited a passion for the sport among the younger students and many of them have gone on to join the netball team as a result!

**As a department, we look forward to witnessing the continued growth and success of these promising students as they progress through their Sports Studies qualification.**





PE

# SPORT REPORT



## CRICKET

**Eight students were selected to represent our school in a regional cricket event hosted by Lancashire Cricket.**

The girls have been working hard week in week out to perfect their bowling technique and improve their batting and fielding skills. As well as wanting to improve, the students' love for the sport is clear to see. Their hard work and dedication enabled them to compete in a regional event which they won by 2 runs!!

As a result of this they have progressed onto the Northwest Regional Finals at Bolton Arena in the coming weeks.

**This is a fantastic achievement, well done girls!**



## FOOTBALL TEAM NEWS

**The KS3 football team have taken part in two rounds of football fixtures against local Manchester schools.**

During this time, they have worked hard at improving their technical skill and tactical ability on the pitch. In their most recent round of fixtures, they were unbeaten in 4 games, a fantastic achievement!!

**The KS4 team have taken part in their second round of fixtures, where they have been competing against local Manchester schools.**

Although the results haven't been on their side, they have played some tremendous football and scored some excellent well worked goals. They have been improving week on week and are looking forward to their next round of fixtures.



**GREAT EFFORT!**

PE

# SPORT

## REPORT



### NETBALL SEASON SUMMARY

As the netball season comes to an end we wanted to share some success stories with you. All our netball teams in Years 7 through 11 have been participating in the Manchester School Inspire Leagues. All players have shown dedication and ambition to improve their skill level, knowledge of the game and tactical play during after school training sessions, and have displayed sportsmanship and healthy competition when playing against other schools.

The Year 7 team have two wins to celebrate this year and a congratulations to Shan, Feyi and Alice who have been recognised as outstanding players by other schools. Our dynamic defending duo of Anias-Nellia and Kaylah have helped the Year 8 and Year 9 teams, respectively, secure wins against Loreto High School and Chorlton South. The Year 10 team demonstrated success with wins against Afifah High School and St. Paul's and have shown their individual brilliance with five different players being voted player of the



match throughout the season – Kayla, Aamina, Hunsa, Imaan and Aisha. Finally, well done to the Year 11 netball team who have shown excellent commitment in balancing their studies with representing the school in this sport. In their final year, the team can boast to a 11-3 win over Afifah High School, well done to Aryssa for receiving player of the match.

**The netball club will restart again in September.**

**The Rounders season is now upon us and club will be open to all students on Wednesday's after school from 3-4pm and we have teams in Years 7 through to Year 10.**



**WELL DONE!**



### SPORTS LEADERS

**Our Sports Leaders have been thriving at a number of recent primary school events, where we have welcomed over 200 students to our sports facilities.**

Our young leaders have really shone this term, developing, and applying their skills. We have hosted two primary football events, two primary basketball events and most recently, two regional cricket heats. The positive impact that our students have on the primary school students is fantastic and it just goes to show how hard working, resilient and organised they all are to facilitate these events.

**The activities would not be able to run so smoothly without our wonderful leaders, well done!**