

# Dispatches

THE CROSSLEY HEATH SCHOOL NEWS

February 2017



## A Word from the Head...

I would very much like to express my thanks and appreciation for parents who have become involved in our campaign to prevent the National Fair Funding proposals going through with the resulting adverse effect on CHS budgets. You have certainly got your voices heard.

Subsequently, I have had a meeting with Holly Lynch who listened very carefully to my concerns and was very supportive. She has written to The Secretary of State for Education asking for a meeting with herself and local Head Teachers. She is also organising an on-line petition. I have also met with Craig Whittaker which proved to be a very different experience. Please continue with your involvement. I shall send a link to the

consultation today with 'suggestions' for responses to the questions being asked.

On a happier note, we have had a very productive half term with examinations taking place for older students and a wealth of extra-curricular activities as you can see from the newsletter. We also found out that an Indian film company is going to use our building (and pay us!) for a 'Bollywood' film about a Hockey team visiting England. Should be interesting!

Have a very happy and safe half term break. We wish the departing skiers well as they set off today.

*Wendy Moffat*

Four Economics students in Y12 known as 'The Codfather' have successfully qualified for the semi-final of the national IFS Share Investor Competition, maintaining the school's strong track record in the event.

Oliver Harker, Sophie Jackson, Zaynab Raza and Adam Jowett managed to make £9729.28 in very challenging market conditions from their initial 'virtual' investment of £100,000. Using live share prices and associated fees and commission over a three month period, they came 376 out of 6414 teams overall. Several other teams from Crossley Heath were successful in developing their portfolios and would have qualified in their own right but only one team is allowed to represent the school under the rules of the competition.

The semi-final commences on 20 February and will run for one month. The teams have to predict final stock prices at the end of each week for a range of investments with points awarded for the degree of accuracy and how early the predictions are made. If successful, the team will go forward to the Grand Final with the opportunity to win an all-expenses trip to New York for themselves and their favourite subject tutor in the summer term plus £2000 for their school.

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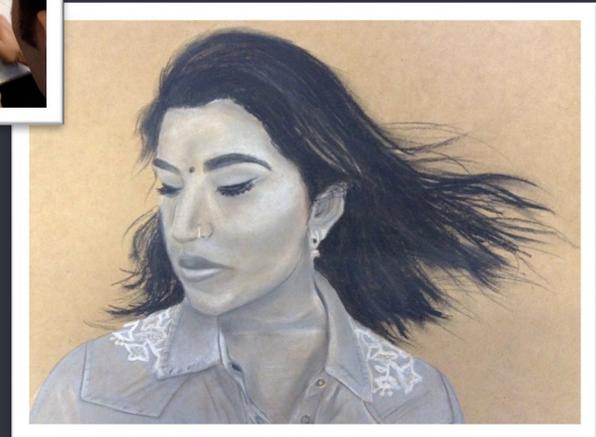
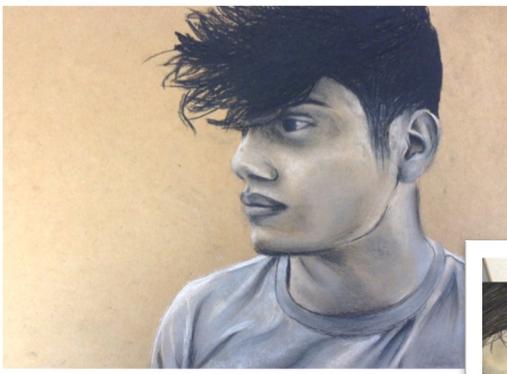
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## CHANGING SPACES

The Visual Arts department has now settled into its new studios and the spaces are proving to be a much welcomed move. With light cascading through windows on all sides, it is the ideal environment to produce quality art work. Students feel the rooms are inviting, warm and much more studio-like than in the previous location; and the close proximity of the Design Technology team has also assisted in supporting teaching and learning with shared spaces and facilities.



## VISIT TO TATE LIVERPOOL

The annual visit to the Tate Gallery at the Albert Docks in Liverpool was initially postponed in January due to the extreme windy weather we experienced on the day it was planned to go ahead. The trip was rearranged and went ahead without a hitch in early February; it was once again a success with students gaining the opportunity to see, appreciate and record art work at first hand – an important part of their GCSE course requirements. With work ranging from Tracey Emin's 'Unmade Bed' to the more classic paintings of L.S. Lowry, there was something for everyone to be inspired by.



## SAFER ROADS

Thanks to the team from the Safer Roads Yorkshire project who delivered their 'Streetwise' theatre presentation to our Y8 students at the beginning of February. The session focused on the potential consequences of lapses in concentration and risk taking behaviour around roads such as using phones and listening to music, as well as 'messaging about' with friends. Students commented afterwards that it had made them think about the dangers and they would definitely pay more attention as pedestrians.



Y12 Psychologists explored attachment theories this term by looking after their own egg babies for a week. Students had to bring their eggs to lessons and post pictures of activities they undertook with them, showing any evidence of attachment behaviours like reciprocity, mimicking and interactivity synchrony. The winning egg of the project was 'Mildred' belonging to Becky Judd.

### EGG BABIES CHALLENGE

The Design Technology department is very excited to be able to offer Engineering as a brand new GCSE option to next year's Y9 students. Our new GCSE introduces students to a host of new technologies, helping them to gain practical skills and understanding to inspire a lifelong interest in engineering. It will particularly appeal to those who enjoy being creative, with an affinity for drawing, design, maths and problem-solving.

## NEW GCSE OPTION - ENGINEERING

exam preparation for the second half.

This option is a logical follow-on from the STEM lessons which we provide at KS3 and is also an ideal GCSE for anyone wishing to take the Design Engineering A-Level that we will be offering in the future. The content is based around the understanding and application of electronic and mechanical systems and how these can be developed, manufactured and utilised.

Y9 will be a 'foundation year' where students will develop a wide range of skills and knowledge building on KS3 STEM work through a range of small 'teacher-led' projects. During Y10, students will be expected to develop their independence and initiative by working on projects where they will have greater autonomy with their work. In Y11, students will focus on the Non-Exam Assessment (coursework) for the first half of the year and

The practical nature of the learning involved in the subject provides a contrast for many students at Crossley Heath. Recent information from universities rates Design Technology A-level as the most useful A-level, after Maths and Physics, for anyone wanting to enter an engineering discipline. As such, an Engineering GCSE is extremely useful for anyone considering pursuing further education courses in any Engineering discipline, Applied Sciences, Medical Sciences, Architecture, Business and Computing in addition to being a very good all round GCSE.



Pictured are Y10 students James, Dhoni and Matthew getting to grips with the department's latest acquisition, a state of the art First Person View racing drone. Once put together from its many constituent parts, the drone will be a great resource to enable the staff to teach elements of the new course including electronic systems, new materials and their use in modern technology.

**RUGBY** - The First XV have qualified for the National Plate semi final having won 27-7 against Hills Road 6th Form College Cambridge and now travel to Reigate Grammar School in Surrey on 28th February.

They have also qualified for the County Cup Final having beaten Prince Henry's Grammar School from Otley in the semi.

The U16 face a tough semi against Wath but are hopeful of emulating the seniors to play in the final on March 11th.

The U15 travelled to Ilkley to play their quarter final which they won and now play Hayfield school from Doncaster on Tuesday 28 February away. With the Yorkshire Cup now being played in only 4 age groups now, it would be a great achievement to get 3 teams into the finals.

Maisie Burton has been selected for the U15 North of England rugby squad. This was based on her outstanding performances throughout the Yorkshire season in which the team were unbeaten. This is an outstanding achievement as alongside her rugby, Maisie also skis and plays netball at representative level.

**SPORTSHALL ATHLETICS** - Twelve Secondary schools took part in an exciting afternoon of tough competition at the Calderdale Sportshall Athletics Finals at North Bridge. Our Y7 girls and boys teams and Y8 boys had some good performances in their final events however were outpaced on the track so didn't medal. The Y8 girls team however showed their strength and depth on the track and in the field by finishing a close 2nd overall to Brooksbank and gaining a place in the West Yorkshire Finals in March. Members of the squad were: Charlotte Margetson, Ava Jackson, Verity Clements, Olive Davison, Iris Palmer, Olivia Greenwood and Tegan Hamilton-Adams.

**CROSS COUNTRY** - Many students represented school at the Calderdale Championships on Savile Park Moor and there were some great performances. In the Y7 girls race, our champion fell runner Isabel Richardson coped well with the shorter distance to finish in 2nd place overall after a sprint finish to the line. Jamie Pridgeon came 5th and Henry Henderson 7th in the Y7 boys. In the Y8/9 girls race, our junior girls dominated with Lauryn Gregg, another promising athlete, finishing in 2nd, Iris Palmer 4th, Verity Clements 6th, Anna Matthews 15th, Lucy Bowler 16th and Breeya Holman 18th. In the boys race, three of our athletes finished in the top 15 with Danny Baxter 9th, Matthew Burrow 13th and Josh Jones 14th. In the inter girls race, Isabel Castelov ran well in spite of a heavy cold to finish 2nd behind her local rival from Brooksbank and Lucy Whearty, our cyclist, also ran well to finish in 3rd position. They were backed up by Georgia Haydon-Reason 15th, Betsy - Jane Codd 16th and Alana Hampshire in 17th. In the inter boys, English schools 800m champion and record holder, Max Burgin won his race comfortably with Harry Johnson in a

commendable 5th position.

Following their performances, seven of our athletes were chosen to represent Calderdale in the West Yorkshire Championships where they competed against some of the best runners in the county. Here, Max Burgin finished in 2nd position with Isabel Richardson in 4th and gaining a place in the English Schools Championships.

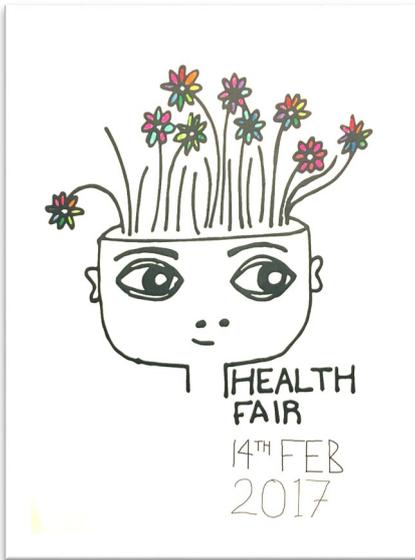
**NETBALL** - Our netballers continue to do well in their league school matches and also playing for clubs and Calderdale squads outside of school. Our U19 squad played in the Regional Tournament at Hymers College, Hull after finishing as runners up in the County tournament. Unfortunately two of our strongest players were unable to play due to injury, however the team played very well although weren't strong enough to qualify for the National Finals. It looks promising for next year however, as the squad were a mixture of Y10, 11 and 6th form players. Members of the squad were: Sophie Jackson, Mairah Hussain, Millie Squire, Anna Brierley, Emily Briggs, Anna Dickie, Hannah Shelton, Hannah McQueen, Sophie Wisniewski and Surekha Kandasamy.

Congratulations to Anna Brierley who has been selected for the Regional Squad and to Emma Bullough and Anna Dickie for the Yorkshire National Performance U19 squad.

**BADMINTON** - Congratulations to the Y7,8 and 9 badminton team who came an impressive third place, beating tough competition from Hipperholme Grammar in the finals. The team consisted of regular attendees of the Friday badminton club, showing all the hard work in training paid off: Matthew Burrow, Raj Palit, Kanishka Megham and Sai Karumuri. Also showing some impressive skills but unfortunately missing out on a medal were Pravidya Mudalige, Koushik Korampalli and Divij Goyal.

**HOCKEY** - The vast improvement in hockey ability throughout the school meant Crossley Heath was able to provide teams at all age groups at the Calderdale Indoor Hockey Tournaments held at Brooksbank. The majority of the girls had never played indoor hockey before but were a credit to the school, showing how versatile and quick to adapt they can be. The U14 team won their tournament, beating North Halifax and Rishworth, two teams who have impressive reputations for hockey. This not only went down in school history as the first team to win a hockey tournament but has put Crossley Heath on the map! The team led by Uschi Depledge-Miller, saw Georgina Holmes score the majority of goals with Catlin Dyson and Lauryn Gregg displaying impressive skills and tactical play. A special mention to Anna Nevison who has shown dedication and commitment to the school by playing as goalkeeper for all age groups but has also been selected for the West Yorkshire JAC with the hopes to go further. Good luck!





Well done to our team of 6th formers who organised and ran this year's Health Fair which took place alongside our Y9 PSHCE Day this month. Students attended a carousel of talks from outside speakers including PREVENT Engagement Officer Adnan Ahmed, Roger Lennon from Teenage Cancer Trust and Lucy Holloway from Bradford College on LGBTQ Awareness. The Health Fair took place in the main hall and students had the opportunity to pick up information and chat to stall holders about mental health issues and support (CAMHS), with healthy lifestyle advice from the Better Living team, as well as

involvement from our own students working as Youth Health Champions and Community Sports Leaders. Some students also had the opportunity for some time out and mindful relaxation in a Yoga session run by Mrs Jowett. Huge thanks to everyone who supported on the day.

## Y9 HEALTH FAIR

## 400 CLUB WINNERS

Congratulations to the following winners in the CHA 400 Club's latest draws this year:

### JANUARY

1st Amy Appleyard - Y9  
2nd Hannah Shelton - Y12  
3rd Oliver Kenyon Y10

### FEBRUARY

1st Zephyr Gravestock - Y7  
2nd William Hibbert - Y11  
3rd Hamzah Ali - Year 7

Your monthly chance to win £125, £50 and £25. Subscription only £15 per year via ParentPay. It could be you!

Last term our music students were busy preparing for the Christmas period, performing at Prizegiving and the two Carol Concerts held for the first time at St Paul's Church at King Cross. Both events went very well with some brilliant performances from the choir and windband as well as fantastic ensemble and solo performances. Well done and thank you to everyone who contributed, with a special mention to Adelaide Taylor, Dora Noszkay, Hannah Watson, Louise Page and our own LRC assistant Rosie Baldwin, for doing the Music department very proud.

In March, a group of our students will be entering the 'Music for Youth' festival along with many different schools in the area in the hope of getting through to the next round. Good luck to everyone including Dora Noszkay and Sarah Jackson who will be leading and arranging the senior singing group competing at the competition.

Recently the department has been fortunate to have been supported by the Crossley Heath Association in helping us to fund a new grand piano for the hall. Over the next few months there will be other fundraising events that students and others will be able to get involved with. Also, keep an eye out for the viola project coming soon – we will be offering special lessons for the viola which will be a great addition to the range of instruments we already offer.

Our GCSE and A level students enjoyed a great day of specialist workshops with the team from Opera North (pictured below) this month.

Our next big activity will be at Easter when we will be taking a group of our Music students to Barcelona for our bi-annual tour. We are currently preparing our repertoire in readiness for this exciting trip!



It's never too late to join one of the music ensembles at school. The groups currently running are:

- Glee Club – Mondays
- Guitar group – Tuesdays
- Junior band – Tuesdays
- Senior windband – Tuesdays
- String group – Wednesdays
- Choir – Thursdays
- Electric guitar group – Thursdays

## MUSIC DEPARTMENT ROUND-UP

We also offer music theory support classes on Tuesday lunchtimes to support students with their instrumental practice. After half term we will also be starting Grade V theory support so keep an eye out for when they start.

Dance classes are available after school on Mondays and Thursdays. There are a couple of spaces left for the classes, so speak to Miss Sutcliffe if you are interested in joining.

**Re-opens: Mon 27 Feb**

**Closes for Easter: Fri 7 Apr**

**Re-opens: Mon 24 April**

**Closes Bank Hol: Mon 1 May**

**Closes for Half Term: Fri 26 May**



## Mar - Apr Calendar

- 28 Feb Careers Day - Y10 and Y8
- 1 Mar CHA Meeting 7pm
- 2 Y8 ABC Parents Evening
- 3 German exchange departs to 10 March
- 7 Y11 PSHCE Afternoon
- 8 Y8 DEF Parents Evening
- 9 Y8 Geography trip to Manchester
- 16 Music Trip Parents information evening
- 21 Parent Focus Group 6:00pm
- 22 Y8 Options deadline  
D of E & NCS Celebration event
- 24 Comic Relief non uniform day
- 27 GCSE MFL Orals commence 
- 28 Y9 Vaccinations
- 5 Apr Y8-9 Netball trip to Paris departs to 9 April
- 6 Y11 and Y13 Leavers Photos AM  
Y9 Parents Evening
- 7 School closes for Easter

## Welcomes & Goodbyes

We've had a bumper start to the year with no less than three January babies! Congratulations to Jennie Bell (Geography) on the birth of her twins Tobias and Rosalie and also to Hazel Cartmell (Maths) on the safe arrival of her daughter Isabelle.

Welcome to our new Learning Support Assistant Sally Corcos and goodbye and thank you to Sharon Crowther who took up a new role in the primary school sector nearer to home.

Welcome also to Sandra Callaghan who joins us after half term as our new peripatetic Brass teacher.



## CHA NEWS

Thank you  
Crossley Heath  
students and

families for your fantastic support of the Family Quiz Night! The evening proved to be one of great competition, fun and success thanks to our new quiz host Mr Chris Milner. Babar Khan's provided a delicious curry supper and we had to practically wrestle the pens out of the hands of late bidders in the silent dessert auction!

Everyone was up for striking a pose in the Mannequin Challenge which was won by Team Brexit. The Best Team Name Award went to Loopy Llamas and congratulations to the overall quiz winners - Team Infinity - who took home the hotly contested Quizzley Heath Cup. Many hands made light work with everyone helping our volunteers at the end and this community spirit raised a whopping £1,200 to fund new educational resources. Thank you!

Tickets are now on sale for our next family event, "Could It Be Magic?" (kindly sponsored by Calder Valley Martial Arts, Hebden Bridge) and we're hoping for another sell out at the Dean Clough theatre on **Friday 31st March**.

Michael Jordan will be presenting his High Jinx Magic, Illusion and Circus show - a fast paced mix of magic, illusions, juggling and escapology that will leave you amazed and entertained. "I still don't know how it's done" said Jonathan Ross.

There will be live music from Jess Thristan, a young singer/songwriter from Halifax whose influences include Coldplay and The Beatles. Jess has performed live for the BBC at the invitation of Radio 2's Clare Balding so we are thrilled to have her support! Tickets are £7 child/concessions, £10 adults with discounts for groups of four or more, which will be available via the online booking system [www.deanclough.com/arts/bookings.asp](http://www.deanclough.com/arts/bookings.asp) Please support us again by coming along and helping us to spread the word.

Thanks for your continued support,

The CHA



## COULD IT BE MAGIC?

**High Jinx Illusionist  
and music from Jess Thristan  
AT DEAN CLOUGH  
FRIDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH**



**Grand  
Illusions and  
Crazy Circus  
Skills**

**Family fun  
for all ages**

**6.30pm doors open  
7pm start**

### TICKETS

£10 adults  
£7 child/concessions  
Discounts for groups of 4+

[www.deanclough.com/arts/bookings.asp](http://www.deanclough.com/arts/bookings.asp)

### INFO

[chapublicity@live.co.uk](mailto:chapublicity@live.co.uk)

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