



Dispatches

The Crossley Heath
School News

December 2018

IN THIS ISSUE

A Word from the Head



What a wonderful term we have had since September!

At the beginning of term we welcomed our Y7 and Y12 students who have settled in brilliantly to become part of our Crossley Heath family. We also celebrated our fantastic exam results: the amazing success of our Y11 students with the new, 'harder' GCSEs and the success of our Y13 students in achieving their A-levels and moving on to their chosen destinations.

Since then, we have made considerable strides towards making our school the very best it can be. We have developed, in consultation with staff, parents, students and governors, a new three year vision which will be available to view on our website in the New Year. At its heart is the determination to be a truly warm and inclusive community and to enhance our care of our children. We have already made strides towards this ambition. Children now receive pastoral support and guidance in a quieter, more private environment. Our newly formed 'well-being' support team, led by Mr Chesters, is up and running and we plan to strengthen that team in the New Year. Our recent training day focused upon understanding and meeting the very diverse academic, social and emotional needs of our children. Our visiting speaker

facilitated sophisticated thinking about positive relationship building through adult/child interactions in our school setting. It was a fascinating day which will inform the development of our practice as we move forward. In November we held our first Community Celebration evening, themed around the significance of light to all cultures and faiths. It was a lovely event, very well received and hopefully the start of a new tradition in the Crossley Heath calendar. Most recently, we have been able to offer all students the opportunity to enjoy a new 'Christmas dinner experience' which was great fun, with Mr Hirst leading the karaoke.

Of course, a myriad of other activities, events, trips and visits have taken place as usual this term and I know you will enjoy reading about them in the following pages.

May I give heartfelt thanks to all of our teaching and support staff who work ceaselessly to make all these things possible, to our amazing young people and to our parents who support us with great energy. Without you all, Crossley Heath would not be the wonderful school that it is.

I wish you all a very happy and relaxing holiday.

Lynnette Cassidy



House Drama Page 7

All the fun from the 2018 House Drama finals



Green Screen Page 4

Students learn about film techniques for Careers Day



Rotary Technology Page 2

Y8 and Y10s shine at the technology tournament



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Rotary Technology Tournament

My experience at the Rotary Technology tournament was amazing. I learned about how to communicate within a team and how to apply skills that I have learned in my lessons to an unfamiliar project. My design and building skills also improved as I contributed to the final design of the project. The challenge my team was presented with was to make a structure at a specific height with a beacon at the



top that flashes repeatedly. It was a challenge, but, we all put our contributions in and managed to gain full marks! Although we didn't win, it was an overall incredible experience.

Haris Bilal 10D

University visit for EPQ students

A strong group of Extend Project Qualification students have begun their journey into academic writing this term. With projects including *Plagiarism in Music*, *Feminism in the Middle East*, *The Effectiveness of Badger Culling*, to *Implications of AI*, we certainly have a diverse group of interests this year!

To kick start their research we visited Huddersfield University and were able to experience their amazing facilities, including the newly completed Oastler Building.

Students received talks on academic writing and research as well as being given access to the vast university library and taught how to reference their research.



Physics students out and about

The A Level Physicists have been out and about this term. In October a group of staff and students went to see *First Man* at the cinema. After a food-stop at the obligatory Nandos and Pizza Express, they all met up to watch the acclaimed film which covered the life of NASA astronaut Neil Armstrong and the Apollo 11 mission to the moon in

1969. All reports were that it is a film well worth catching.

A month later, on 28 November a group of students travelled over to Leeds University for the annual Bolton Lecture in Physics. This year the subject was "Formation of Stars: A journey through cosmic time". The lecture was the best attended yet with



hundreds of people coming out on a wet November evening to hear the speaker from Cardiff University.

Students rounded off their trip with some food from the lovely German Christmas markets and others stopped off at Five Guys for a well-earned burger.

Crossley Community Celebration

Crossley Heath celebrated diversity with its Interfaith Week for students and Community Celebration event for families, guests and other members of the local community. The theme of light was adopted for the week, a theme which most faiths and cultures have in common. Guest speakers delivered assemblies on Islam, Christianity and Hinduism and the connection to the theme of light. Students had the opportunity to debate various topics during form time and staff were encouraged to adopt the theme during lessons. Y7 students visited the Madni Mosque and St Paul's Church and learned about the customs and practices within both places of worship and had a warm welcome from both establishments.

Our celebration evening was a varied and colourful event with guests, again, adopting the theme of light. Representatives from the

Jewish, Islam, Christian and Hindu faiths all shared their experiences and a Humanist shared his viewpoint on why light is so important. Activities included the lighting of a menorah candle and sharing of food as part of the Hanukkah festival of light, prayers and discussion, as well as singing and Indian dancing. Guests were invited to bring and share food as part of the celebration and students had made food during their lessons which represented different faiths and cultures. Finally, guests were treated to an uplifting song called 'My Lighthouse' performed by a member of a Christian band. It was a very interesting and enjoyable evening and a real treat to have so many cultures coming together to share and celebrate differences and commonalities.



Some of our guests discussing aspects of faith at our community celebration event



Junior cooking classes

Y5 pupils from Savile Park Primary came over for two afternoon visits this term to take part in a practical cookery lesson based upon the theme of "Seasonality" which they have been learning about with their teacher, Mrs Fretwell.

They had excellent knowledge & understanding of the topic, explaining the benefits of eating fruit & vegetables grown in season (including some picked from Miss Jones' own garden).

They understood that these are fresher and more nutritious than those which have flown half way around the world to get to our plates.

Special thank you to the Y13 students who helped to run the cookery sessions: Hannah Barraclough, Olivia Christie & especially Olivia Howarth who did a splendid job of encouraging the Y5s to try the vegetables!

School Governor Update

The governing body welcomed three new governors appointed by the Academy Trust Board over the summer and we expect to have new parent governors by the end of term.

The full governing body and all committees have met twice this term. Committees merged at the start of the academic year; business and personnel committees are now the business and resources committee; curriculum and student welfare committees are the achievement and welfare committee and the vision and strategy committee remains as it was.

Governors have participated in the Y13 parents evening; the Post 16 open evening; House Drama final judging and are looking forward to the annual Prizegiving ceremony and carol service.

The governing body wishes all staff, students and their families a very happy Christmas.



Careers Day for Y9



Y9 had a fantastic start to the half term with a fun packed Careers Day in October. The sessions were designed to expose students to potential future careers and also to get them thinking about the skills they have to offer a future employer.

One of the sessions was given by former Crossley's student, Dr Richard Armitage, and inspired students to think about careers in medicine. Barclays Bank brought a team in to explore employability skills and discuss careers in finance. There was a very

interactive session from the wonderful Media and Arts department from Calderdale College; green screens, sound effects and fancy camera were all in play!

To consider university options, we invited Huddersfield University in to help students look at the reasons for going on to Higher Education and to sample some of the many courses available. The feedback from the day has been really positive and students gained a lot from all our wonderful guests.



Each September, our 4 Houses take on sponsorship of a Dalit child in India and are asked to raise £180 per child. To date Savile have raised **£134.74** and Kings **£157.41** and we are hoping to raise more soon. **£195.27** was raised for Macmillan Cancer Care as we hosted a Bake Sale for

O'Connor and Mr Lees) ditched their razors and grew a moustache for the month. Their efforts raised awareness and an impressive **£588.61** for male cancer charities. The school's annual support of the Royal British Legion through sales of poppies raised **£268.59**. Also in November, the

Charity Roundup

the entire school.

In October, **£878.93** was raised for the CHA non uniform day.

November started with "Movember" when eight members of staff, (Mr Brownlie, Mr Chesters, Mr Brawn, Mr Brooks, Mr Barber, Mr Davies, Mr

annual Staff Vs Students Netball match took place on Children in Need day and raised **£161.38**. The student led Lamya Society held a bake sale and raised **£154.33** for Oxfam. Finally, the school's charity committee raised **£128.37** at the annual Christmas Market for St Augustine's by selling sweets and doing henna designs.

December has kicked off with the annual Rotary Shoebox Appeal with 45 boxes given to the appeal; also a bake sale during Interfaith week raised **£45.35** for St Augustine's and the non-uniform day raised **£910.45** for the Welcome Centre in Huddersfield and Calderdale Age UK to be split evenly.

A total of **£3623.43** has been raised this year. Thank you for your support!

Enterprise Challenge

On 14 December two teams of our Y12 students entered the National Enterprise Skills challenge against 14 other teams from a variety of schools as part of the C6 collaboration. The event was organised by NatWest in partnership with the UCFB (University Campus of Football Business).

The aim of the event was for teams to create a business proposal to set up a university in Asia with a link to football. The tasks involved researching locations and finding out about the culture of the country, identifying suitable courses to offer, designing a logo, creating an advertising campaign, costing the project and basically all elements of a business plan.

Our team 'The Seoul of Asia' were chosen to go to London to represent the school at the National Finals. This event will be attended by the rich and famous as well as influential people in the business world. It could lead to the students being involved in the project up until its inception. We are very excited by this and the decision was well deserved with the students' performance leaving the judges speechless. Well done to Lexi Crossley, Roan Richmond, Amina Ali, Jonny Seagrave and Georgianna Smith. We wish them lots of luck for the national finals!



"The National Enterprise Challenge gives schools the opportunity to harness their pupils' key employability skills"
- Lord Sugar



"I was simply blown away by the #TNEC Finals day last year. School shouldn't be just about academia. Enterprise gives you an understanding of the real world, and that's so important."
- Theo Paphitis

Y13 interviews

Y13 students have all had a mock interview session this half term. Invited guests came from a wide range of professions, including doctors, engineers, finance managers, Nestle executives, an architect, a marketing director and many more!

We were really lucky to have support from some of our own parents and although the interview process was rigorous, students found it very informative.

All the students performed really well; there were even a few job offers mentioned! The hope is that the students can transfer some of these skills and experience into upcoming university and apprenticeship interviews.

Maths challenge

Well done to all the students who entered Maths Challenges this year. Lots of our students have achieved excellent results.

UKMT Senior Maths Challenge results:

Twelve 6th formers and one Y10 student took part.

George Tao and Raya Ali achieved a Gold certificate and got through to the next round - the Senior Kangaroo.

6 achieved Silver :

George Pennington, Hannah Swallow, Ben Hutchings, Roan Richmond, Jonny Seagrave, Sana Khalid

2 achieved Bronze-

Harry Ryan and Billy Stephenson.

Well done to everyone who took part.

Support & Advice

We hope you're looking forward to the festive break. We understand this time of year can be difficult for some children and their families. Please be aware that support/advice can still be received during school breaks and we would urge you, should you need support, to consider:

www.openmindscalderdale.org.uk advice, support and signposting on local and national services that help children and young people's emotional health and wellbeing. The site also has a section for parents, carers and professionals.

www.kooth.com online counselling and emotional wellbeing platform for young people aged 11-25 in Calderdale.

Anonymous access to advice, support and guidance on any issue that is affecting their wellbeing.

www.barnardos.org.uk offers support for a variety of targeted emotional and wellbeing support to young people.

Y12 Geographers visit Arran



It was a great start to A Level Geography this year when the opportunity to visit the Isle of Arran arose. We set off during the early morning to Scotland to go on a ferry during the afternoon, and was greeted with a beautiful view over the waters with the sun reflecting onto them; and then a pink sky to

admire when on our way to the field studies centre where we were staying. Meanwhile there were seals to watch climbing up onto the rocks and exquisite views to look at of the water and mountains towering over it.

Our days on the island consisted of river work, collecting information from the public and then using it for the investigations for our lessons in the evening. Vital skills were learnt on this trip that we could use for the future, especially



methods in calculations and plotting graphs.

Despite the harsh wind and rain on the last few days, the whole group worked together to conquer the tasks and didn't let it affect them, even when the river flooded the road. We walked for miles in the rain and still had smiles on our faces. We learnt not only skills that would benefit our A Levels, but teamwork and communication skills too, making this an overall successful Geography trip.

Chloe Warner - 12PDL

Fountains Abbey

The Y7 historians ventured to North Yorkshire for their annual visit to the beautiful National Trust site of Fountains Abbey near Ripon in October.

All the students (and staff) had the opportunity of dressing as a novice Cistercian monk and experiencing a day of monastic life in the ruins of the Abbey. They also investigated the Mill and the nearby Fountains Hall. National Trust volunteers guided the students through the activities and were very complimentary about their enthusiasm and good behaviour.

Thankfully the weather was kind and the students were able to enjoy the lovely scenery while learning a little about this fascinating site.



Uniform standards

Thank you to parents for supporting our school uniform policy. On the whole the students look very smart and in keeping with our school expectations.

Here is a reminder of the key points from the Student Planner:

- trousers must be full length
- make up (KS4) must be minimal
- skirts must be the correct style and knee length
- students can have a maximum of one stud per ear if they choose to wear earrings
- nails must not be false or painted
- jumpers must be crew neck, black or grey
- school shoes (not trainers) must be worn.
- hoodies are not allowed as part of our school uniform.

Students are also expected to arrive and leave school wearing their uniform correctly.

Thank you for your assistance with this matter.

Kings win House Drama

What a year for House Drama! Our 6th form teams completely excelled themselves this term with organising productions that could have walked away with the coveted title in previous years.

First on stage for the heats was Kings with their version of the traditional tale of Jack and the Beanstalk.

Next up were Savile and their interpretation of the Disney classic, Finding Nemo.

Porter had a fresh take on the usual staging and brought song and dance to House Drama with their version of the comedy film The Nativity.

Last on stage were Queens who covered that perennial festive treat starring Santa's oversized helper, Elf.

The plays brought humour and creativity to the fore and the year group audiences were appreciative of their efforts. Judges admitted it was a very close decision with a matter of points separating the houses chosen to go through to the final.

Special mention must be made to two star performers who were awarded the Best Male and Best Female Actor awards. Porter's Joel Kuzhivelly in Y7 played a hilarious version of Mr Poppy the teaching assistant in The Nativity

and Lauren Wilson-Radcliffe in Y11 was the star of the show for Kings, playing the comically villainous Baron Smug.

On the night of the finals it was Porter versus Kings, for a final performance judged by our governors and Mrs Cassidy. Both house were highly commended for their fantastic efforts and Kings were duly crowned winners on the night.

Huge well done to every member of the houses that performed, directed, choreographed, made costumes, did make up, or opened the curtains. You did yourselves proud - thank you!

Clockwise from top left: Kings "Jack & the Beanstalk", Savile "Finding Nemo", Queens "Elf" and Porter "The Nativity".



... SPORTS NEWS ... SPORTS NEWS ...

RUGBY

U15 rugby continues to go from strength to strength and although they did lose in the National Cup to a very strong GSAL (Grammar School at Leeds) side, they have reached the semi-final of the Yorkshire Cup. 6 of the squad are in the extended ERDPP (England Rugby Developing Player Programme) group hosted by Yorkshire Carnegie.

Yorkshire Carnegie's community and the England Rugby Match Official teams are also heading into school next term to further develop our relationships as Mr Dunne adds to his coaching journey working with a local primary school.

Our 1st XV are unfortunately out of both cup competitions having narrowly lost in the National cup to Ashville College and in the Yorkshire cup to Harrogate.

CALDERDALE CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS 2018

There was a very good representation of our pupils in the recent Calderdale Cross Country Championships, with several runners finishing in the top 12 in their races, thus qualifying for the West Yorkshire Championships in February.

Our Y7 girls finished in 4th place overall with Vaega Hussain finishing in 4th place. Y7 boys finished 2nd overall with Oliver Gill in 1st place and Rowan Baxter in 3rd. Y8/9 girls finished in 2nd place overall with Ellis Milner in 9th position and Kier Taylor 13th.



Y8/9 boys finished in 3rd place overall with James Duffy in 4th position.

In the Y10/11 girls race, we had an excellent turn out finishing 1st overall.

Lauryn Gregg came 1st, Gwen Marsden 6th, Olive Davison 7th, Isabella O'Toole 8th.

With the Y12/13 girls, Isabelle Castelow finished in 1st place overall with our star runner Max Burgin winning the Y12/13 boys race comfortably.



SPORTS LEADERS

Our sports leaders have had a busy term, organising and running events. The 6th form group ran a successful and popular Y12/13 inter-form 5-a-side football competition with 12/13 KH finishing as overall winners.

The Y10 girls sports leaders helped run the Calderdale Schools Cross Country Championships



on the Moor and the other group organised and ran a competitive and enjoyable sportshall athletics event for our local primary schools. Over 60 pupils from St Chads, The Gleddings and St Mary's primary schools took part in a variety of field and track events, with St Chads finishing as overall winners, thus securing a place in the Calderdale finals

Weihnachtsmarkt



Diesen Dezember hatten die Schüler der Oberstufe ein besonderes Erlebnis. Sie besuchten mit den deutschen Lehrerinnen den Weihnachtsmarkt in Manchester. Sie wurden ermutigt, ihr Deutsch zu erproben, als sie Bratwurst und Waffeln bestellt haben. Obwohl die meisten Standbesitzer auf English geantwortet haben, war es definitiv einen Versuch wert! Alle haben die magische Atmosphäre der Stadt zu Weihnachten genossen.



Science Journal Club

Once each half term, our A level scientists are invited to join a few science staff to enjoy some presentations by students about subjects that interest them from their wider reading around their A level subjects. The session is very informal - refreshments are provided (including donuts!) and students always come up with interesting questions at the end of each presentation.

This term we have had some fascinating and well-researched talks: Zaynab Awan told us more than we had ever wondered about the dental

condition Amelogenesis Imperfecta; Sharjeel Ashraf and Syaam Choudhry explained how coal liquefaction could help us out with dwindling oil reserves (but not how we can address climate change!); and Nathan Kevins and George Pennington blew our minds with their presentation about Supersymmetry and the Standard Model.

We meet in the Conference Suite after school on a Monday. We would love to welcome Y11 students who are considering science A levels to our next session on 4th February so please do come along!

From the Finance Office

Many thanks to all parents who are now successfully using the online payment system.

Please ensure that you check ParentPay regularly for new trips, resources etc., which will require paying for. Please also ensure after the holidays that there are sufficient funds on student accounts to enable them to have lunch on their return in January. There will be various trips with instalments due so please check and make payments as necessary.

Finally, to all Music Tuition students a reminder that Spring Term fees are now due.

Many thanks and festive greetings
The Finance Team

GCSE & A Level Exam Certificates

If any students did not attend Prize Giving to collect their exam certificates, please make sure you come to collect them from the school office as soon as possible!

Due to new legislation, we will soon not be able to keep paper files or exam certificates that have not been collected by students who sat their exams this summer or from previous years.

Apparently getting a replacement copy of your qualification from the exam board can cost £40 per certificate, so this is a good time to check that you have collected everything.

The school office is open during school hours from Monday 7 January.

Biology in action

On Thursday 13 December I visited Salford University as a part of a trip offered to 6th Formers to hear a number of talks on current research in biology and how it is being used to help today's society. Ranging from bacteria in the gut to why oxygen absorption is altered at high altitudes, the day offered a wealth of current and interesting research findings. The human body is amazing and we are on the cusp of new technologies every day. At the event we were given the opportunity to question doctors and researchers from all over the country. I would recommend future events to anyone interested in biology, research and or the progression of modern medicine. It was an opportunity to see a glimpse of what the future holds with regards to technology, medicine and the possible next Nobel Prize winners; not an event to miss!

Georgia-May Codd 12/13 MSS

Term Dates

Closes for Christmas: Thursday 20 December
Re-opens: Monday 7 January 2019

Closes for Half term: Friday 15 February
Re-opens: Monday 25 February

Closes for Easter: Friday 12 April
Reopens: Monday 29 April



Crossley Heath PTA News

Thank you to everyone who supported our Christmas Market and other recent events. We will have news of our totals raised very soon.

Wishing all our families a very happy Christmas from all at The Crossley Heath PTA.

Please like us on Facebook and follow us on twitter to keep up to date.
 Registered Charity Number: 1043362



www.facebook.com/CrossleyHeathPTA



[@crossleypta](https://twitter.com/crossleypta)

2019 Calendar



7 Jan	School re-opens
9	Y11 exams and study leave commence CH PTA Meeting 7pm
10	Y10 Parents Evening
14	Y10 Art Trip German Exchange Information evening from 5.30
21	Y13 exams and study leave commence
25	Non-uniform day
1 Feb	Y11 Mock Results morning German exchange departs
6	CH PTA Meeting 7pm
7	Intermediate Maths Challenge
8	CH PTA Quiz Night
11	Y9 Health Day
12	Y9 A-B-C-D Vaccinations
13	Y11 Parents Evening
14	Y9 E-F-G Vaccinations
15	Ski trip departs Bake sale. School closes for Half Term.
25	School re-opens
28	Y13 second Parents Evening Closing date for 6th Form applications
6 Mar	CH PTA Meeting 7pm
7	Y8 Careers Day Y8 A-B-C Parents Evening
12	Y8 Trafford Centre trip
13	Y8 D-E-F Parents Evening
15	Comic Relief non-uniform day
19	Parent Focus Group 6pm
20	Y8 options deadline
22	CH PTA Event
28	Whole school photo

Sports Leaders

Congratulations to the following students who have been awarded a Level 1 Qualification in Sports Leadership this term:

Mariam Ali
 Tayyibah Ali
 Sophie Bingham
 Lizzi Brandon
 Breanna Cockroft
 Alethia Cryne
 Riley Deacon
 Uschi Deplege-Miller
 Erin Doyle
 Caitlyn Dyson
 Lauryn Gregg
 Amelia Hedley
 Alice Hutchings
 Aimee Jackson,
 Gabby Joyce
 Malvina Karuna,
 Mia Kench
 Huda Kiani
 Charlotte Ladocha
 Tara Melling
 Isabel Lote
 Umamiah Mahmood
 Anna Mathew
 Hifsah Noor Al- Huda
 Vaneesa Patel
 Bethany Rayne
 Gabbie Sears
 Hema Singh
 Olivia Underwood
 Amy Appleyard - who also earned a " Spirit of Leadership" award for over 200 hours volunteering.