



Dispatches

The Crossley Heath
School News

February 2019

IN THIS ISSUE

A Word from the Head



2019 really has flown by since the start of term and it is hard to believe we have reached half term already!

In December's Dispatches, I mentioned the creation of our new three year vision, following consultation with staff, students, parents and governors. We are delighted to make it public in this edition and on our website. The vision is, as you would expect for Crossley Heath, an aspirational one, with some very real challenges for us if we are to fully realise it. At its heart are our deeply held values and our determination to create a very warm, inclusive and vibrant school community. I hope you will share in our vision and actively support us in moving towards it in the coming years.

We have been enjoying our success in the recent secondary school league tables, published by the Department for Education in January. The tables confirmed our Progress 8 score at 0.41 and our attainment 8 73.5, the latter the best in Calderdale. Both scores significantly increased compared to last year and improved our DfE rating to 'above average', which means that children at Crossley Heath make above average progress from their already high starting points.

Y11 and Y13 have been studying hard for their mock exams and received their results on our mock results days. These days give the students a foretaste of the 'real thing' in August and a chance to stop and reflect on making the best use of the time left before GCSEs and A Levels start in earnest.

We welcomed our full Governing Board into school in January where they spent an intensive day working collaboratively on issues relating to school governance, taking part in some training and visiting some lessons. We are privileged to have such an effective and dedicated group of governors who give so much of their time to support the school.

We were also visited by an academic from Kings College, London who is one of a team conducting research into 'Schools and multi-agency safeguarding'. Surprisingly, given the high profile of safeguarding in education and society as a whole, there is limited research in this field and we were pleased to be invited to take part in what will be an important and fascinating research project.

I wish you all a great break over half term!

Lynnette Cassidy



Young Enterprise Page 5

A flying start for our Y12 enterprise team talking to customers at the White Rose Centre in Leeds.



Hockey Tournament Winners Page 4

The U13 girls team beat North Halifax at the indoor tournament in January.



Chinese Language Day Page 2

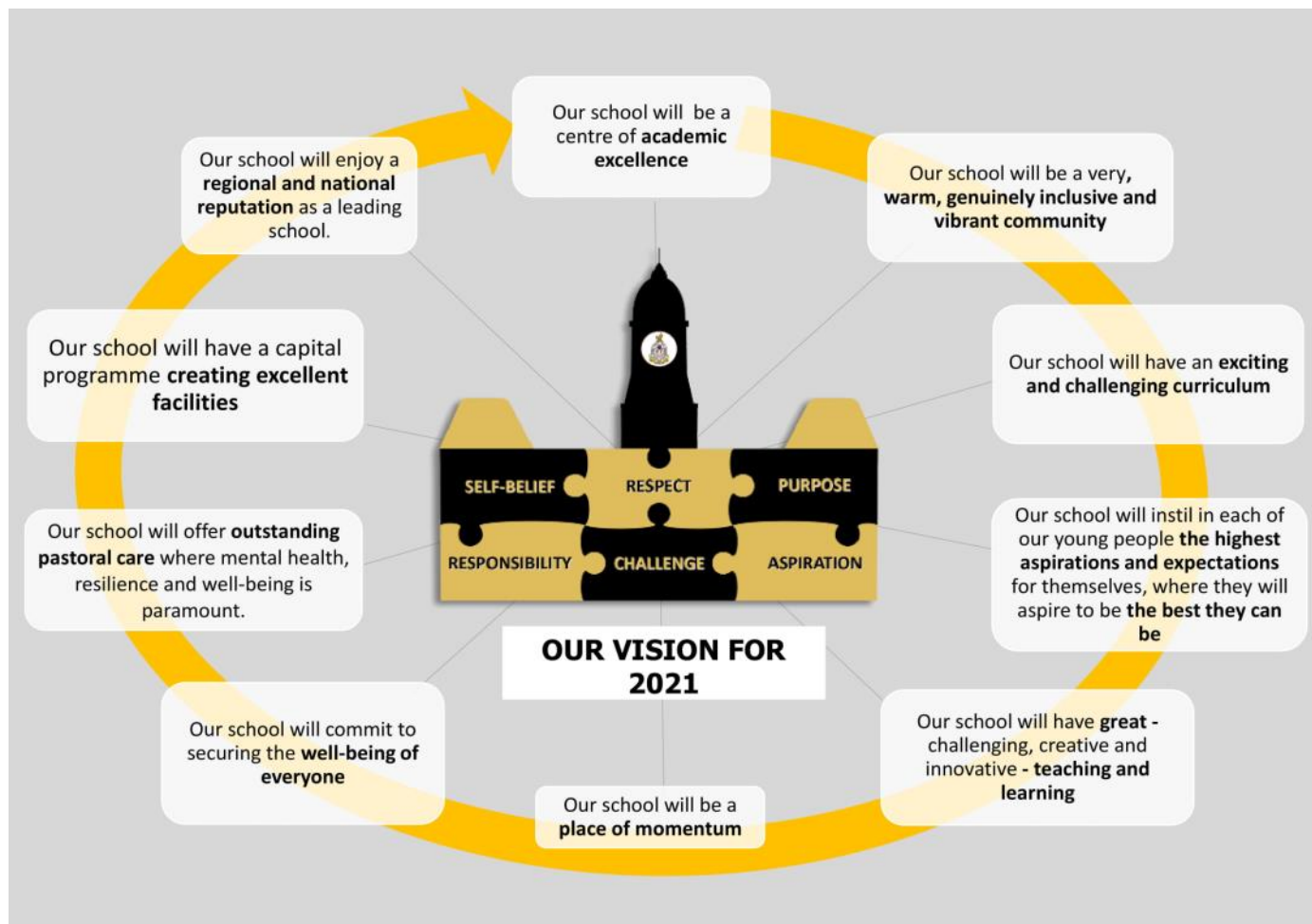
Our Y7 Mandarin students take part in a singing competition and other language challenges at Leeds University.



Follow us on Facebook,
Instagram and Twitter:
@crossleyheath



Email: admin@crossleyheath.org.uk
Phone: 01422 360272



Our School Vision for 2021

Following lengthy consultation with staff, students, parents and governors we are pleased to publish our new vision for 2021. The vision can also be found on our website.

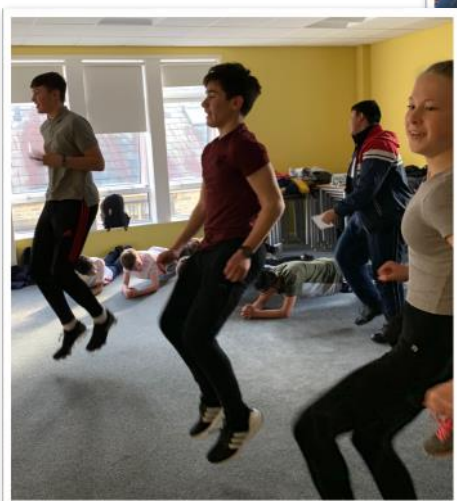


7C's Mandarin Excellence Programme students took part in an intensive learning trip to Leeds University this half term. Their day included reading Chinese from a computer, translation challenges, and taking part in a singing competition with a concert performed by a British band 'Transition'.

The students really enjoyed their trip and were delighted to win second prize in the singing competition. Special mention must go to Lola Bond who performed an impressive singing solo. Back in school, the students have been enjoying activities to celebrate the Chinese New Year of the Pig. 新年快乐

Mandarin Excellence Programme





Some of our Y9 students taking part in the huge range of activities provided at the Health Fair Day

Health Fair Day for Y9

Y9 attended the annual Health Fair Day which brought a huge range of events and workshops to develop the students' understanding of healthy lifestyles.

The Teenage Cancer Trust delivered a powerful session in the morning which looked at different cancers affecting teenagers and general advice on how to spot if something is not right with your own body. The PE interns led exciting sessions about getting moving and finding activities that you love ...some very funny videos brought this session to life!

Subject matter in the classroom-based workshops ranged from sexual health, mental health, drugs & alcohol awareness, fitness and even the issue of plastic in our oceans! The fitness sessions

were not for the faint hearted as students were really pushed to their limits by the Better Living team. The fair in the hall allowed students to have access to a wide range of professionals including those from Prevent, Safeguarding, the Women's Centre and the school nursing team. Students were also given information about organ and stem cell donation from the Anthony Nolan Trust and had a go at blending their own smoothies with pedal power. Our very own Miss Galaxy Halifax attended to discuss mental health and self confidence and a group of sixth formers performed fitness tests.

It was a long, busy but very informative day for all involved and hopefully healthy futures await!

Finance News

Please ensure that you check ParentPay regularly for any new resources that may be required and also for upcoming instalments due for trips, music tuition and so on which will require paying for.

Please also check that your child's catering account is topped up. There is a facility for an alert from ParentPay to advise you of a low balance on catering – see Parents FAQs on ParentPay website.

Many thanks
The Finance Team

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

RUGBY

With normal season all but over, students have tours to look forward to in the coming months. In late March we have St George's School from Vancouver staying with us and playing games against our U14, U15 and U16 teams. In October we will pay a return visit with 55 current Y8 and 9 boys, many of whom are hosting the students from St George's.

TABLE TENNIS CLUB

Table tennis club has been a huge success this term with boys and girls across the year groups attending. Approximately 50 students regularly take part in the lunchtime club and it is hoped that it will continue to grow in the future. We have been fortunate to have Paul Dimpson from Deaton Table Tennis Club work with the youngsters and their improvement in a short space of time has been very evident under his expert tutelage.

CROSS COUNTRY

Four of our students, Max Burgin, Isabel Richardson, Isabel Castelow and Verity Clements qualified for the English Schools Cross Country Championships. Several of our athletes were selected to represent school and Calderdale in the West Yorkshire Cross Country championships held at Leeds Grammar on 3 February and there were some superb performances in all age groups on a challenging course.

In the Y7 boys event, Oliver Gill finished in a respectable 24th position out of a field of 49 runners. In the junior boys race, James Duffy ran well to finish 11th position, as second boy across the line for Calderdale. In the senior boys race, track superstar Max Burgin demonstrated he is a class cross country too, finishing in 4th place overall.

In the girls event, there were other successes, with fell runner Isabel Richardson finishing in 2nd position in the inter girls, racing against girls a year older. Verity Clements also ran a great race, finishing in 7th position which will hopefully confirm her place in the County squad and Lauryn Gregg finished in 9th position in the same race and will be awaiting news of a possible call up. In the senior girls race, our 6th form runner, Isabel Castelow was also selected for the English schools by finishing in 6th position. Well done also

to Ellis Milner and Olive Davison for their performances on what was a tough course in cold conditions.

**GIRLS RUGBY**

Coaches, James and Dan from the RFU and Rugby League, have been working with the girls in their PE lessons. The school rugby club will be

starting again the first Monday back after half term and girls will be training to take part in rugby festivals.

INDOOR HOCKEY

We have had a successful indoor hockey season and took part in the Calderdale tournament. The U13 girls won their title overall with Cody



Harrison being named player of the tournament. A strong defence from the girls meant no goals were conceded in the tournament. The U14 girls narrowly missed out on the title and came runners up. The U15s came third, which is a great achievement considering it was the first time playing for some of the girls. We are extremely proud of all the girls who played against such tough opposition.

**SPORTS LEADERS**

Over 70 Y10 girls are involved in sports leadership courses in their PE lessons and have been volunteering in school and outside clubs. A group of 6th form students have also been involved in their enrichment time and helped run the Primary Cross Country Championships where they were complimented for their enthusiasm, organisation and motivational skills.

CALDERDALE SPORTSHALL ATHLETICS FINALS

We entered four teams in the annual Calderdale Sportshall Athletics Finals at North Bridge and once again our teams were hugely successful. Our Y8 boys dominated their events finishing 1st overall, with our Y7 boys and girls and Y8 girls teams finishing 2nd overall. All four teams have qualified for the West Yorkshire Finals in March, a great result and demonstrating the strength and depth of all our junior athletic teams.

NETBALL

The end of season netball tournaments have started with the U12 A's taking place at Trinity Academy. Our squad played very well in their qualifying rounds, just losing out to Ryburn in extra time of the semi-finals.

Well done to all squad members for a great team effort: Kate Jackson, Catherine Ogden, Erin McGrath, Vaega Hussain, Cara Needham, Nevaeh Hudson-Hunter, Lily Barnes, Evie Lee, Bethan Philips and Josie Williamson. Kate Jackson was our player of the tournament for her great play in the circle as goal keeper.

LAUNCH OF GIRLS SPORTS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE.

The launch of the Girls Sports development committee will take place the first Monday back on 25 February 6.30-7.30pm in the Conference Suite (above the Sportshall.)

We are keen to get a group of enthusiastic parents on board to help with fundraising for our future sports tours. If anybody would like to help with sponsorship for Girls' Sports Tours or be part of the committee, please attend the meeting if possible, or email s.mallinder@crossleyheath.org.uk



Our Sixth Form Young Enterprise Group, **First Words**, are making amazing progress this year. Alongside running the school Tuck Shop at lunchtime, the fifteen students involved in the group have worked hard to develop a book which encourages young children to take a greater interest in learning a foreign language.

'Our Magical Treehouse' takes two young twins, Eddie and Leila, on an adventure through Europe where they learn new

words in a range of foreign languages along the way.

The story and characters are completely original and the book, which is produced using sustainable resources, is full of amazing illustrations provided by our very own Mr Hirst. The group has been very successful at the two major selling events they have attended thus far at the White Rose Centre in Leeds and the Oastler Centre in Bradford; on both occasions the company mascot, an owl,

proved very popular. They are now turning their attention to the potential local primary school market and booksellers.

The group are also currently preparing for the forthcoming Young Enterprise Competition where they will be required to showcase their entrepreneurial skills in front of a panel of esteemed judges. The school has a strong track record in the competition and we wish the team every success in the future.



First Words Young Enterprise



Im Februar sind wir nach Aachen geflogen, um einen Austausch mit den Studenten aus der Viktoriaschule zu machen und es war eine unvergessliche Erfahrung!

Am Wochenende haben wir Zeit mit unseren Partnern verbracht und es war sehr lustig, weil wir uns kennen gelernt haben. Danach sind wir mit Freunden Eislaufen gegangen und es war ein bisschen schwierig, da es viele Leute gab!

Am Montag haben wir die Aachen Rally gemacht und wir haben das so spannend



German Exchange trip to Aachen

gefunden. Später haben wir den Dom besucht und er war so altmodisch und schön mit viel Geschichte. Dann sind wir zum Rathaus gegangen und wir haben den Oberbürgermeister getroffen. Er war sehr freundlich und herzlich. Am Dienstag sind wir nach Köln gefahren, um eine Tour durch die Kathedrale zu machen. Ich denke, das

war so interessant, weil wir die alten und neuen Teile gesehen haben. Es ist eine der größten Kirchen in der Welt und wichtig, denn es ist gotisch. Am Mittwoch haben wir das Centre Charlemagne besucht und wir haben viel über Karl der Große gelernt. Er war ein sehr wichtiger Kaiser. Am Donnerstag fuhren wir mit

unseren Austauschpartnern nach Maastricht und wir haben die Höhlen gesehen. Es war eine interessante Erfahrung und wir haben süße Fledermäuse gesehen. Wir haben viele Geschichten über die Höhlen gehört. Es war unheimlich!

Am letzten Tag sind wir in die Schule gegangen und es war echt anders als in England! Die Viktoriaschule war so modern und lehrreich und die Lehrer waren so süß und net. Die Stunden waren ziemlich lustig, obwohl sie ein bisschen verwirrend waren, denn wir haben nichts verstanden! Danach mussten wir zurück nach England fahren und wir sind jetzt alle traurig, weil Deutschland so unglaublich war!

Cara Fitzgerald - 10E

Term Dates

Closes for Easter: Friday 12 April
Re-opens: Monday 29 April

Closes for half term: Friday 24 May
Re-opens: Monday 3 June

Closed for INSET Friday 28 June

Closes for summer: Friday 19 July

2019 Calendar



25 Feb	School re-opens
28	Y13 second Parents Evening Closing date for 6th Form applications
6 Mar	PTA Meeting 7pm
7	Y8 Careers Day Y8 A-B-C Parents Evening
12	Y8 Trafford Centre trip
13	GCSE PE Conference Y8 D-E-F Parents Evening
15	Comic Relief non-uniform day
18	Y13 German Study Day in Manchester
20	Y8 options deadline
22	PTA Event
28	Whole school photo (AM)
3 Apr	PTA meeting 7pm
4	Y10 Geography trip to Salford
5	German Exchange students in school this week
9	7C visit to Chinatown
11	Y11 and Y13 year group photos (AM)
12	School closes for Easter
29	School reopens
30	Y8 Girls vaccinations
1 May	PTA meeting 7pm
2	Y12 Parents Evening
3	Y10 Health Day
6	May Day - school closed
7	MFL oral exams commence
10	Y11 study leave begins
13	Y7 Exams week
14	Y13 study leave begins
20	Y8 Exams week
21	Y9 Parents Evening
24	School closes for half term



Crossley Heath PTA News

We'd like to say a big thank you to all our school families and friends for your fantastic support of the PTA (the Crossley Heath Association) this half-term! We could not raise the funds without you. We cannot stress the importance of volunteers highly enough, as every single fund raising event relies completely on people coming forward to help. Even if you can't stay for the whole event, an hour here or there to help set up or clear down is always appreciated. In addition we are always looking for new committee members to bring a fresh approach or new ideas. There are also some committee places that will need new people as two of our long standing members will be leaving in July when their children leave Crossley Heath. Please come and see us on the first Wednesday of every month during term time in the sports hall from 7pm.

Our Family Quiz night was another sell-out event with fun for nearly 140 people, organised with thanks to a wonderful team of volunteers. Thanks to your support (including employee match giving) we raised around £1,200 for our pupils! It might be worth pointing out that every penny we make at all our events is given back to the school for worthy causes. In fact we have just approved recent bids where we invite departments to ask for any equipment which will benefit the majority of pupils and we then agree to pay for those goods or services from the funds we have raised. There will be a list of new projects in the next newsletter.

Please keep an eye on our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/CrossleyHeathPTA> where we make announcements and mention forthcoming events.

We welcome any suggestions for events particularly if you have been involved in the PTA of your child's Junior school. If you have the energy to organise an event we will be delighted to listen to a plan! The other members will then support a new initiative once it has been agreed and we work with Mrs Gallimore to ensure it will fit in with school plans and policies.

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)

Ripponden/Rishworth MyBus service

Given ongoing pressure to reduce local authority budgets, the Combined Authority is planning to revise the guidelines on the provision of subsidised school bus services from 1 July 2019 and is seeking the views of service users and other interested parties before doing so. The new guidelines would come into effect at the start of the new school year – 1 September 2019.

Schools, parents, pupils and others are invited to complete a questionnaire hosted on the [Combined Authority's consultation and engagement website](#) where you can also find out more details about the proposed changes.

All interested parties are able to have their say on the proposals until 15 March 2019. Depending on the feedback received, the guidelines may be revised, subject the availability of funding. Any new guidelines will come into effect from 1 July 2019, with the new services running from 1 September 2019.