



# The Crossley Heath School

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18<sup>th</sup> February 2022

## END OF TERM UPDATE

Dear Parents/Carers,

At the end of what has been quite a long half term for everybody, we thought it would be good to give you a flavour of our 'getting back to normal' activities since the Christmas break. It has been lovely to see the return of a number of traditional Crossley Heath events and to welcome more visitors to the school to work with our young people. Here are a few snapshots of what has been happening (many of these are reported on our Twitter feed too):

Our student leadership programme is thriving with our leaders working across the school and going out to support a range of activities in local primary schools. It's wonderful to be forging stronger links in the local community through this programme.

We enjoyed our first bake sale last week as part of our non-uniform day to mark Children's' Mental Health week and it was clear that the appetite for cake is as keen as ever! In total the day raised an amazing £1300 split between the charity 'A Place to Be' and our own wellbeing support provision.

Our new project to engage students with reading and to develop confident speaking is well underway - just yesterday visitors trained a large group of students to be 'Debate Mates'.

Students in Eco-club have been very enthusiastic, meeting with the Catering Manager to discuss ways to further reduce our carbon footprint and the group has secured a generous donation from the Old Crossleyans to support their work. Our thanks to the Old Crossleyans.

The CHA have been able to grant funds for various projects, thanks to your donations to them. We have purchased new equipment in science, PE, DT and for the gardening club. The CHA is also financing learning opportunities such as performances in German and French by a theatre company after half term. Thanks to the CHA and to all of our parents who kindly contribute towards fundraising for school.

We have now re-established assemblies in person and it has been great to see year groups coming together to engage in assembly themes and to reflect on our values and ethos as a school.

To celebrate the Chinese New Year, we held a creative day where students could try their hand at a number of activities including Chinese calligraphy and trying Chinese bubble tea.

We are pleased to have made available at lunchtimes, for the use of the whole community, a second room for private reflection and prayer.

*An "Outstanding" School – Ofsted*

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We have been delighted to see the sports calendar thriving with a large number of students enjoying a range of sports, for example, students attended the U13 Calderdale Girls Football Festival and our U14 Cricketers recently won the Calderdale Indoor Cricket Trophy.

Our Crossley Pride group are currently holding a competition to design a new badge for the group.

Not to be left out, the 6<sup>th</sup> form have enjoyed talks and presentations including a talk by Sheffield University about Russell Group and competitive courses, a presentation by former student Josh Broadbent about routes into Engineering, and cancer awareness supported by a visit from Oddballs.

Looking ahead to next half term, we are delighted that we are able to hold the postponed Prize Giving celebration for our 2021 Year 13 and Year 11 leavers.

As you can see, it has been an exciting, very busy half term and lovely to see our children and young people enjoying a much more normal school life. I am sure they, like our staff, are ready for a break and hope that you are all able to get some quality family time over the course of the week.

Yours sincerely,



**Lynnette Cassidy**  
Headteacher