



# Dispatches

## The Crossley Heath School News

July 2023

### A Word from the Head

We have come to the end of another wonderful and busy year for the school.

We have enjoyed developing engagement with parents through a number of events, workshops and surveys and I would like to thank our families for providing very helpful and positive feedback to the school. There are always areas we can improve, and it's very helpful to hear your thoughts and suggestions.

We were assessed for the renewal of the Quality in Careers Standard in May and were delighted to retain this award for another three years.

After a couple of years of limited fun and enjoyment in visits and experiences, seeing an abundance this year was lovely. Students have enjoyed trips far and wide on residential to Rome, Iceland and



the Battlefields of Belgium and the visit to Condoover Hall saw a welcome return. For many students was the first trip away from home. Students have also enjoyed many day visits including rewards trips to Blackpool, Alton Towers, the Great Yorkshire Show and the cinema.

Yesterday we held a very popular activity day in aid of our 161 fundraising campaign and it was wonderful to see so many students (and some staff!) enjoying the inflatable obstacle course. It is great to finish the school year with some fun.

I wish you all a very good summer!

*Lynnette Cassidy*

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# A Trip Through History

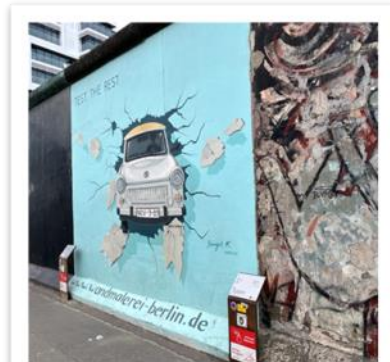


*Walking Unter den Linden: A Trip Through History*

Over the course of the **2023 Berlin Trip**, I found that my understanding of Germany – a country whose future continues to be shaped by its past – was challenged, developed, and enriched.

Walking through the streets of Berlin, I saw the city I had studied so often in my History A Level classes come to life around me. Passing by the Berlin Palace and the Berliner Dom, the dynastic residences and tombs of the House of Hohenzollern translated from the pages of my textbook into tangible, imposing structures. Bullet and shrapnel damage obtained during the Battle of Berlin remained visible on the cathedral's exterior, striking me as a subtle - yet powerful - reminder of the scars and healing the city has undergone in the past century. Indeed, facing the Altes Museum (an infamous site for Nazi congregations), admiring the impressive Brandenburg Gate, and strolling Unter den Linden all brought into perspective the scale through which German history has unfolded over the past century. And yet, amongst all the historical grandeur of Germany's capital, it was between the quiet walls of the Neue Wache - housing Kollwitz's melancholic statue 'Mother with her dead son' - that the nature of my history studies was truly put into perspective. A tour of the underground wartime bunkers and visit to the East Side Gallery further transformed Berlin in my eyes, becoming a city embodying the grandiose, yet at times also intensely personal, everyday impact of historical events.

Over the trip's duration, I also came to understand the ways in which Berlin's modern socio-political culture has been moulded and refined by its past. When visiting the Deutscher Bundestag, visions of the Weimar Republic's proclamation made from the previous Reichstag's window almost a century prior formed in my mind, with deep-seated historical influences becoming ever more evident as the trip continued. At its heart, Berlin was overflowing with historical references, from Checkpoint Charlie to remnants of the Berlin Wall scattered around the city. As a child of parents who had lived under a Communist regime similar to that of the GDR, learning about everyday staples of life in East Germany such as the Trabant



was not only fascinating, but also brought me closer to the world of the near past in which my family had lived. It

was thanks to Mrs Grossova's meticulous and detailed organisation, her thorough linguistic proficiency in German, and her and Mr Donlan's attentive guidance, that I could fully appreciate the cultural and historical importance of the city of Berlin. Visiting the Tiergarten Soviet War Memorial built in the former British sector particularly strengthened my understanding of sentiments of contemporary divisions between the East and the West. However, when gazing over the glittering lights of night-time Berlin at the heights of the TV Tower, I also came to realise the speed with which monuments once associated with Soviet division could transform into unifying icons of national pride.

Perhaps the most important, yet difficult, moments of my time in Germany were when I was confronted with the lessons of the past. Having already studied the Nazi Gleichschaltung – or 'consolidation' – of power, the Typography of Terror Museum and the Jewish Museum proved immensely helpful in deepening my understanding of a particularly difficult area of German history. Even so, our visit to the Memorial and Museum Sachsenhausen (established as the administrative centre of all concentration camps in 1936) was a chillingly disquieting reminder of humanity's potential for evil and suffering. Walking in the steps of the eventual victims of the camp through the town of Oranienburg, passing under the infamous words of 'Arbeit macht frei', and seeing the inhumane conditions of the camp was an undoubtedly eerie, unsettling experience. It was, however, in many ways one that was necessary. Not only hearing about, but seeing the horrific impact of human prejudice also showed me the need to learn from the lessons our past provides us with. Walking between the looming, cemeterial blocks composing the Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe, and seeing my own reflection as I peered into the Empty Library dedicated to remembering the May 1933 book burnings, I could not help but wonder how much the city of Berlin – and history itself – still have left to teach us.

*By Fulvia Draghici (Year 13)*





## German Exchange Trip



Overcoming the challenge of the threat of strikes and cancellations, the German Exchange trip went ahead, with students from Years 10 and 11 having a brilliant time experiencing German life and culture first-hand.

Each stayed in their partner's houses in Aachen, having already hosted them here in February, and took part in a whole range of excursions in and around Aachen during their stay including visiting Aachen Town Hall and meeting the Mayor; visiting the St Petersburg caves in Maastricht; going shopping and exploring the Chocolate Museum in Cologne as well as spending time in the Viktoriaschule (our partner school.)

Being able to practice their speaking and listening skills resulted in the students coming back with increased confidence.

## Exam Teamwork



During exam season, we are subject to unannounced annual JCQ inspections. The inspections are to ensure that all procedures are being followed within the strict JCQ guidelines. This was passed with flying colours, with 100%, and the inspector quoted as saying "if all schools I visit across the country were as organised my job would be so much easier."

We also had another unexpected visit the day after from another inspector who was doing a paper check and we passed that challenge too.

We have a fabulous exam team and a great team of invigilators who all ensure that the students get the best experience in what is a very stressful time of their lives and the invigilation team commented on how well behaved the students have been throughout.

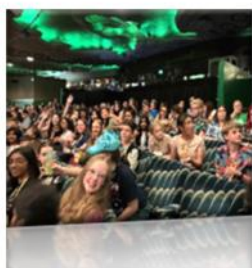
## Music Visit to London

### Music Department Visit to London

In late June, students from our enrichment groups joined Mr Nimmo, Ms Peers, Mrs Griggs, Mrs Barker, Mrs Hutton-Searle and Mr Hicks on an overnight residential to London.

By coach, we travelled down to Sunbury-On-Thames to our hotel, and then straight into London to enjoy the entertainment and buzz of Covent Garden. A lovely meal at the Hard Rock Café followed before we enjoyed Wicked at the Apollo Victoria Theatre. 'Defying Gravity' is very familiar as GCSE students have studied it, but it was wonderful for them to see it live in all its glory.

The next day, we enjoyed our full English Breakfast at the hotel before we headed back into London for a River Cruise on the Thames. Having enjoyed the sights of London from the boat, we headed down Parliament Street, passed the gates of Downing Street and the Horse Guards to Trafalgar Square and then Leicester Square for lunch. A very quick trip to McDonald's/Greggs followed before arriving at the Sondheim Theatre for the matinee performance of Les Misérables. What an amazing show and experience! 'At the end of the day' we travelled back home having had a great time! Our students were a real credit to the school and impeccably behaved.



# Mandarin Excellence Programme 2023

This year has been another busy one for students on our Mandarin Excellence Programme. The University of Leeds hosted an Intensive Learning Day for 7C during which they enjoyed many workshops including learning Kongfu.

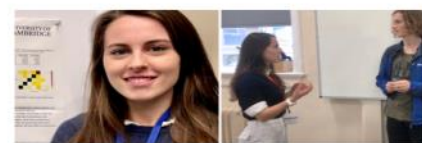


During the first week of July, Year 9 students enjoyed their Intensive Learning Week as part of the Mandarin Excellence Programme. Intensive study was held virtually, and they also took part in the Panda mask competition and Chinese painting competition.



# Sixth Form News

Big thanks to our former student Dr Emma Rocheteau from Cambridge University who spoke to our Year 12s about studying medicine, engineering, computer science and the future of AI



## Staff v 6th Form Cricket

Thanks so much for everyone that joined in or supported staff v sixth form cricket - the students won 82-62, and the game was played in the right spirit with some comedy bowling from Mr Garbutt and a great wicket for Miss Gaukroger! Same again next year!

# Rotary ECO-Club Competition

Eco-Club entered the 'Young Environmentalist Competition', run by the Rotary Club. The competition had a focus of biodiversity and the students had to create a project about raising awareness. Two groups from Eco-Club started working on their projects in November, they worked extremely hard during the winter months and entered the competition in January. One group won the District Intermediate Competition and then went on to win the National Rotary Competition, up against many schools through the UK!

This is a fantastic accomplishment, and one which the students will be entering again next year - does this sound like something you would like to do? If so join Eco-Club next September, run by Miss L Turner for your chance to take part!



# Artistic Endeavours

In the last term the Visual Arts Department has continued to go from strength to strength.

Students across multiple year groups have taken part in creating pieces of artwork to be displayed at the Artworks in Halifax as part of their 'Compassion' exhibition. In conjunction with the St Augustine's Centre and as part of Refugee Week 2023, this exhibition featured work from schools across the area to promote the theme of compassion and showed support to refugee families in Calderdale. In the lead up to the exhibition, Year 9 and 10 GCSE Art students completed a workshop with a visiting artist and visiting speaker from St Augustine's centre, creating collaged birds and learning about the work of the charity. Year 8, 9 and 10 students also took part in sessions about Refugee Week during art lessons and tutorial time and created their own birds in response to the theme of compassion. All of their creations were collected together and featured in the exhibition at the Artworks.

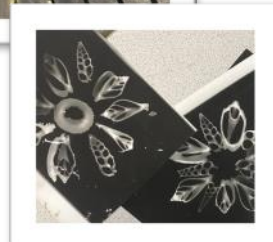
The annual Year 7 colour wheel competition had many fantastic creative designs, but our ultimate winner was Thomas Elliott from 7D

This half term, Year 10 GCSE art students

had the opportunity to take part in a specialist workshop session catered towards their chosen discipline. Fine Art and Textiles students developed their skills in screen printing with Ms Saldaña, created a printed piece inspired by natural forms, The Photography students worked with Mrs Henson and learnt various 'cameraless' photography techniques, experimenting with various process in the darkroom, and the Graphics students did an intense workshop of character and packaging design development using digital media as well as experimental collage designs with Mrs Tomlinson.

Finally, this term we have supported the Student Leadership teams by creating decorations and resources for their Eid and Pride events. These have all be done through our Extra Curricular Art Clubs which run through lunchtimes.

*Lauren Tomlinson*



## Y7 and Y8 Maths Challenge!



This term we had a large number of year 7 and 8 take part in the Junior maths challenge and we were delighted that some of them got through the next round. We had 2 year 7s and 8 year 8s, which is a school record at this level. Plus a special mention to Alex Burke and Nandini Karthik who qualified for the Junior Olympiad, a 2 hour written paper. A fantastic achievement for their age.

Well done to all of you!!

Pictured are some of the winning students



# Year 8 Residential Trip to Condover Hall

Year 8 Residential Trip to Condover Hall. This year saw the return of our year 8 residential trip. Returning to Condover Hall after 4 years.

This trip is about helping our pupils meet the school values of Self-belief, Challenge and Aspiration through exposing them to different environments and new challenges. It is also aimed to help with the transition into new form groups for year 9, mixing pupils from different parts of the year group.

135 pupils accompanied by 13 staff enjoyed 3 days of activities including abseiling, high wire challenge, team building challenges and archery. To the backdrop of the fabulous Grade I listed three-storey Elizabethan sandstone building, Condover Hall. Helped along by glorious clear blue skies and the end of the heatwave, and Mr Spencer's constant pestering about sun cream. We celebrated some amazing achievements by pupils who really pushed themselves outside of their comfort zones. Pupils stayed in dorms of between 6 and 12 pupils an interesting experience for all involved and for some the first time

away from home. The centre provided an amazing variety of food with 3 hot meals a day. The trip was a huge success with lots of happy, but somewhat tired, pupils when we returned.

We are currently in the early planning stages for running this trip again in 2024 for next year's Year 8 pupils.



# Annual Rotary Club of Halifax Technology Challenge

On Thursday 2nd March 2023, at Rishworth School, the Design Technology department entered teams in both the Foundation and Intermediate classes of this year's Annual Rotary Club of Halifax Technology Challenge.

Students had to solve a Technology problem, delivering packages across a ravine, modelling a working prototype and after 3 hours of trial and refinement, perform the final testing. All groups succeeded in the challenge.



## ARUP Design Programme

Two of our top Y11 Engineering students Isha Jayakumar and Bethan Phillips, applied and won a place on this year's ARUP Design Programme between 2-7<sup>th</sup> July, a week-long induction to 15 different engineering and design departments within ARUP. Working in teams to research, design and then present a proposal for a new festival event for the North to ARUP Design Heads, parents and teachers, including all details, such as the site choice, plans, staging, lighting, and infrastructure.

Students gained a huge insight into how a big company works and was a great way to see the different areas within engineering careers. Huge congratulations for excellent presentations.



The results were:

*Foundation level*  
1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> places,  
*Intermediate level*  
1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> places.  
Outstanding results  
all-round, well-done  
teams!

# Rome Experience

An amazing trip was had by all involved, taking 40 year 10 GCSE students to Rome for RS - June 6-9th.

We had a fun packed few days of sightseeing that enriched our GCSE curriculum.

The students enjoyed their experience in Rome. Some of their highlights involved a visit to the Pantheon, colosseum, Vatican City, Trevi fountain and the Spanish steps.

We enjoyed walking around Rome to soak up the atmosphere and the sun! During our 4 day stay we sometimes walked up to 10 miles a day! We walked past many religious buildings and icons on the surrounding streets.

Finally, the food experienced was very tasty! We enjoyed many Italian dishes including freshly made pasta, gelato and pizza.



# Biology Challenge 2023



In May this year 37 students from y9 and y10 chose to use two lunchtimes to complete online multiple-choice quizzes for the **Biology Challenge**, run by the Royal Society of Biology. Questions asked about biological knowledge from the curriculum as well as drawing on wider knowledge of the subject from reading books and magazines, watching natural history programmes, taking notice of the news media for items of biological interest, and general awareness of our natural flora and fauna.



Of these, 9 achieved a bronze award, 6 achieved silver and we are delighted that 5 students achieved a magnificent gold award: Aryan Roychoudhury (y10), Jessica Sanderson (y9), Jad Estephan (y9), Jackson Hoyle (y10) and Tolisha Warnakulasooriya (y10).

Since the competition only awards gold certificates to 5% of participants nationally, these students should be really proud of themselves.



# Library News

## Blind Date With a Book

To celebrate Valentine's Day during February, the library created a *Blind Date With A Book* display, which proved to be so popular it is still on-going! Books are wrapped and given a few brief descriptive words relating to their content, giving pupils (and staff) a chance to try a book they may not otherwise have been drawn to. The feedback has been largely positive, shown by the completion of 'Rate Your Date' cards some of which have also been turned into *shelftalkers* which assist users in making borrowing choices.



## Recommended Reads

*Because of Winn Dixie* by Kate DiCamillo

"It was a (fairly) realistic story, so I found it easy to imagine a girls like India Opel in real life. I loved it."

Keira Slyman 7B

*She Wore Red Trainers* by Na'ima B. Robert

"I learnt a lot about the Islamic faith and their rules. Overall it was a fantastic read. I totally recommend."

Lois Russell 7B

*The Time Keeper* by Mitch Albom

"I loved this book as it reminded me of how important and valuable the time we have is"

Sohana Podapati 7B

*The Stone Thieves and the Honourable Order of Inventors* by Eddy Telviot

An amazing read for all ages, with adventure, intrigue, fascinating technology & science, exotic locations, epic fights and heart-break—not to mention a great library! Local author Eddy Telviot has kindly gifted our library copies of the augmented version which allows the reader to access beautiful and original concept art, and more, as you complete each chapter—soon to be made into a TV series!

For more information check out the fabatoms website: <https://atomverse.co.uk>

Instagram @fabatoms

TikTok @fabatoms



## Pupil Librarians

This year we have welcomed our Year 8 Pupil Librarians: Yashwi Mehta, Isla Smart, Iram Jan, Harini Korampalli, Myra Garg, Zara Blanchard, Sophia Johnson, Ramandeep Kaur, Aaminah Hussain and Imogen Gill, all of whom have performed their duties with enthusiasm and purpose, and we would like to say a big thankyou to them all for playing an invaluable role in maintaining the smooth running of the LRC at lunchtimes. Our helpers are identified by their Pupil Librarian badges and, on completing their given year, each is presented with a certificate and a special LRC badge which they can wear throughout their school journey. Having already received applications from our current year 7s, we are looking forward to training our new helpers in September.



## World Book Day

We celebrated this year's World Book Day with pupils, and some staff, dressing up as their favourite book character, with the entries being judged by members of staff and our special guest, local author Jennifer Burkinshaw, whose debut novel, *Igloo*, a contemporary Young Adult romance set in the French Alps, is available to borrow from our Library.



Pupils from KS4 also made book-themed bookmarks to be given to anyone borrowing a book and these have proved extremely popular in school with author Anthony Horowitz commenting "A great idea, brilliantly executed."

## Readerboard Results

### Readerboard Competition

There has been the usual healthy competition this year to gain the top place on our Readerboard, with many book reviews being submitted for approval by pupils across all years.

The winner this year is Jeseila Suatengco of 9A repeating her success of last year.

The House Reading Trophy is once again awarded to Kings House with a total of 196 points.

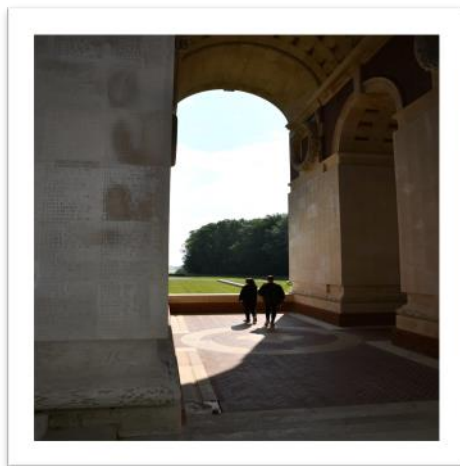
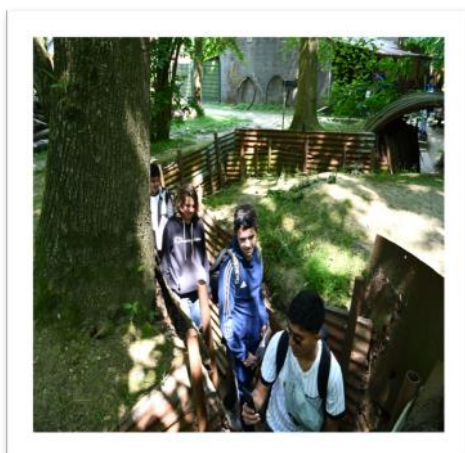
Congratulations to all our winners.



## Reading Buddies

### Reading Buddies Mentoring Scheme

Our 'Reading Buddies' mentoring scheme has continued this year with success. 8 volunteers from Year 12 underwent thorough training on the scheme with Mrs Owens before they were paired up with their Year 7 buddies. The pairs have met up once a week during the summer term to read together in the LRC. It has been a pleasure to observe the older students encouraging and supporting their younger mentees with their reading and to see the Year 7s increasing their confidence and proficiency in reading. Their reading ages have been assessed to have increased considerably as a result of the scheme and thanks to the time, effort and hard work of our dedicated Year 12 mentors, who have committed to being 'Reading Buddies' again in the autumn term.



## Battlefields Trip

Year 10 History students visited France and Belgium on the long-established Battlefields tour between the 6<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> of June visiting cemeteries, museums and memorials dedicated to the soldiers of all nations who fought in the First World War. A busy few days visiting sites on the Somme battlefield and then the Flanders region of Belgium, centred around the town of Ypres and including attendance at the Last Post ceremony at the Menin Gate and also laying a wreath at Tyne Cot cemetery in memory of a Deputy Head of the school who died leading his men in 1917.



## Heath Old Boys' Archive Event

The Crossley Heath School has a wonderful history, dating back to Tudor times and the establishing of Heath Grammar School in 1585, and in March we held our first Heath Grammar School Archive Event.

It was a pleasure to welcome many Heath Old Boys and guests, and a privilege to be able to showcase some of the fascinating collection of Heath documents, photographs and artefacts that form part of the School Archives that are cherished and looked after in the Library at Crossley Heath School.

Among these is the original Seal Matrix of the Governors of the Heath Free Grammar School, dating back to 1597, a precious artefact that had been kept secure in the school safe and not seen on display before.

The entire display generated lots of interesting conversation and shared reminiscences, and a hope that this will be a recurring event in the future.



Out on display — beautifully restored oak chairs and the bust of Dr John Favour, the Founder of Heath Grammar School

(the original bust can be seen in the Halifax Minster.)

# Iceland Trip



## Year 10 Geography trip to Iceland 2023

*We arrived in Iceland on Sunday afternoon; the Sun was out to give us a warm welcome, for what we didn't know would be, one of the best experiences of our lives. The first night, we stayed in Hotel Ork. Where we hurriedly ate our food and headed straight to the pool. It was two full hours of amazing fun, with swimming races, water polo, and much more. Even though the massive slide, which we all waited to go on, was closed there was thankfully a smaller alternative. After the swim, we headed to our rooms to rest before another fun-filled day.*

*The second day... Waking up at 7 am for a 7:30, breakfast was hard, but we still pushed through. After breakfast and making our sandwiches, we went straight to the coach and drove to the hot springs. Steam gushed out, full of sulphur, that created a nasty stench. We drove for miles, stopping past waterfalls and mountains. For tea, we ate at the hotel, where after, we went to the common room to socialise with friends.*

*The third day (my favourite) we did the Golden Circle. At the first stop, drove on the Eurasian plate before seeing a rift valley where this plate was moving away from the North American plate – I did not think I would get to see something like this. We then drove to see a waterfall, we were all in awe as we stood, gazing at the mighty Gullfoss waterfall. I've never seen anything like it. It was one of a kind. Next, we visited the hot springs and went to a gift shop where (most of us) bought presents for our parents.*

*The fourth day we visited the spa, it was heated by Geothermal energy, which was fascinating. We also went hiking up a glacier, I had learnt about this in lessons but seeing it in front of me, really made me appreciate the scale and the impact that climate change is having.*

*Our final full day was exhilarating! We started off by going through the lava cave; then, as we were travelling, we stopped off at many places, like the beach and some waterfalls. To finish our last night, we stayed at the Lighthouse inn, where we ate some fish.*

*It was an amazing trip and thanks to all the teachers for taking us.*



AA Teamworks West Yorkshire SCITT, a part of Great Heights Academy Trust, are looking to recruit and train the next generation of teachers who will develop the knowledge, skills and understanding, and make a real difference to children's life chances. The SCITT is part of a national Research School, so their programme is informed by the latest research-based evidence and the most up-to-date educational research. They pride themselves on their personalised approach and provide their trainees with the highest quality support and care from the very beginning of the course through to securing employment.

All those who successfully train with AA Teamworks will not only receive Qualified Teacher Status (QTS), but will also be awarded a Postgraduate Certificate of Education (PGCE) through the University of Huddersfield.

If you, or anyone you know, is a postgraduate considering a new challenge, or in their final year of studying at university and is interested in becoming a teacher, please share these details. The course is full-time and takes one academic year to complete. There are bursaries and scholarships available on selected subjects of up to £27,000 and applicants are eligible for student finance.

Further information and how to apply can be found on their website:

<https://aateamworksscitt.org>.

Their team are on hand to support you through the application process.

Contact them via email [enquiries@teamworksscitt.org](mailto:enquiries@teamworksscitt.org) or call on 07828 886534.



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# Music 2023

## ABRSM exams

Over the course of the academic year, we have hosted four sessions of ABRSM exams in school with 60 students achieving their grades in across a number of instruments. Well done to all students who have passed their exams this year (please see below) and a special well done to those highlighted who achieved distinctions! Also, a special well done to Vanessa Pukl for achieving a grade 8 merit (in year 8!). We are also very pleased with Matthew Currie who has worked hard for his grade 8 trombone. The result is due to come in any day now.

In addition to the ABRSM exams, we had four students who have passed Trinity Board exams.



## Piano Festival

In October, brand new for 2022, we presented the first Crossley Heath Piano Festival. During the week, over 60 students played piano pieces on the four pianos that were positioned in corridors, at break and lunchtimes. The whole building was filled with the sound of the piano! It was a wonderful week. Thank you so much to all of the students involved.

The week culminated in a concert where students, members of staff and guests played to a captivated audience. It was lovely for students to be able to hear their teachers play and special thanks goes to Mathew Watts and Scott Kitchen (our piano teachers) and Michael Carradus for performing. Our students who performed in the concert did a brilliant job! Well done to Abbie Gilligan, Finlay Hardy, An Qi Guo, Caitlin Phillips, Koushik Korampalli, Nina Slyman, Vanessa Pukl and Lauren Bone!



Will Davison, who is a musician, educator, composer, producer and DJ, performed some Jazz standards and also a piece created by using a loop pedal which was particularly appealing to our students with an interest in music technology. We also had Lucy and Anaya as guests from Ravenscliffe Special School. They performed and were truly inspirational, along with their teacher Daniel Bath who is part of a wonderful charity bringing music education to children who would otherwise not receive it ([www.music4theman.com](http://www.music4theman.com)).

As part of the Piano Festival, the Art Department ran the painted piano project. The beautifully decorated instrument now has pride of place at the front of school. Our thanks go to Lauren Tomlinson and her design team of Jess, Caitlin, Emily, Lyela, Bea and friends!

## Exam Successes!

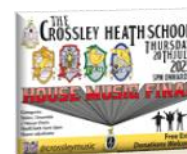
The following students have all passed grade exams on instruments this year. Well done!

### Practical Exams

Faria	Ahmad	Piano	3	Aaminah	Hussain	Piano	1	Nina	Slyman	Piano	4
Zinedine	Ayub	Piano	5	Lael	Jacob	Piano	2	Keira	Slyman	Piano	1
Amelie	Baker	Flute	4	Jayden	Jairath	Piano	1	LillyMay	Stead	Piano	2
Dharani				Raganvi	Kakumani	Piano	1	LillyMay	Stead	Piano	3
Rajarathinam	Bhavyakrishna	Piano	3	Shamritha	Kumar	Piano	3	Cory	Stewart	Piano	1
Lauren	Bone	Piano	8	Isabel	Kuzhivelly	Violin	2	Cory	Stewart	Piano	2
Benjamin	Cooper	Cornet	5	Tego	Marsh	Piano	1	Stanley	Stuart	Piano	1
Ethan	Croll	Piano	3	Tego	Marsh	Piano	2	Louisa	Tuton	Piano	3
Phil	Daniel	Piano	2	Evelyn	Mills	Flute	6	Warnakula			
Dinuli	Devasurendra	Clarinet	1	Amber	Mitchell	Piano	3	Tolisha	ooriya	Piano	4
Dinuli	Devasurendra	Piano	3	Siddh	Pallavajjala	Piano	3	Chester	Wastell	Piano	1
Thomas	Elliott	Piano	4	Beatrice	Pedley	Flute	4	Leo	Willacy	Piano	4
Thomas	Elliott	Piano	5	Caitlin	Phillips	Piano	7	Emily	Wray	Piano	3
Joe	Fitzsimmons	Piano	3	Vanessa	Pukl	Piano	8	Emily	Wray	Piano	4
Matilda	Francis	Piano	4	Lyela	Qin	Piano	4	Musical Theatre Performance			
Ebony	Gill	Piano	1	Ruby	Rasakumara	Piano	2	Mary	Saville	Singing	1
Abbie	Gilligan	Piano	7	Samara	Ravat	Piano	4	Trinity Board			
Imogen	Gilligan	Piano	5	Samara	Ravat	Piano	5	COLLEGE LONDON			
Oscar	Grimes	Alto Sax	2	Miles	Rowland	Clarinet	7	Sebby	Hawke	Classical Guitar	3
Anqi	Guo	Piano	7	Miles	Rowland	Violin	7	Hans	Ibarra	Classical Guitar	7
Finlay	Hardy	Piano	7	Prithivith	Shiva Deep	Piano	1	Sylvie	McKeown	Classical Guitar	3
Ollie	Hunt	Piano	1	Prithivith	Shiva Deep	Piano	2	Pragya	Surabhi	Violin	5
Ahmed	Hussain	Piano	1	Shivraj	Singh	Piano	3				

## Music extra-curricular activities

Our extra-curricular provision has grown from strength to strength this year and we have had memorable performances at so many events this academic year. Musical performances have included the Piano Festival (see above), open evening, for the coronation, prizegiving, the new intake evening, the pastoral parent event, the sixth form open day, Christmas assemblies, leaver's assemblies, the Winter Fayre and Remembrance day. We have also enjoyed a joint String Group rehearsal with another local school with the opportunity for further collaboration next year. Our GCSE students enjoyed a trip to Bridgewater Hall to watch the Halle orchestra perform. And, at the time of writing, we are almost ready for our first House Music Final since 2023!



The next academic year will see further performance opportunities and we are also looking forward to an extra-curricular concert tour to Belgium in March!

Any student who is interested in joining any of our extra-curricular groups in music should speak to Mr Nimmo. We are always looking for new members!

## ... SPORTS NEWS ... SPORTS NEWS ...

**ATHLETICS**

At the beginning of the season, our athletes took part in a 'friendly' athletics competition v Rishworth School. There was some fantastic competition in both the track and the field events, with Crossley Heath winning the Event overall.

In the Super 8s Competition held at Spring hall, over 40 students represented our school and there were some strong performances both on the track and in the field.

Out of the 13 schools who took part, the year 7 girls won overall, with the year 7 boys in 5<sup>th</sup> place.

Year 8 girls finished 4<sup>th</sup> and the year 8 boys 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Year 9/10 girls finished 7<sup>th</sup> and the year 9/10 boys 3<sup>rd</sup>

Well done to Sophia Johnson, Reshem Noor, Padruig Muxlow, Oghenemaro Omih and Isabel Richardson who were all selected to represent Calderdale in the West Yorkshire Athletics Championships. Isabel Richardson was then selected to represent West Yorkshire in the English Schools Athletics Championships held at the Alexander Stadium in Birmingham, when she finished in a fantastic 4<sup>th</sup> position, just missing out on a medal. Huge congratulations to her on her achievements on both the track, in cross country and also fell running, during her time at School.

**ROUNDERS**

Rounders continues to be a popular sport, with many girls attending practice on a regular basis and playing matches against Calder High, North Halifax, Rishworth and Huddersfield Grammar Schools.

All our year groups also took part in their annual Calderdale rounders tournaments, held at Brighouse High School, where they enjoyed playing competitive matches against other school teams from across Calderdale.

The year 10 team played well winning three out of their four matches, where they lost in a close match against Brighouse High School in the semi finals. Farwah Asima and Thea Patterson were strong with both their batting and fielding skills. The year 9 team played well as a team but didn't get past the qualifying stage, there were great performances by Ritika Shah and Meher Usman.

The year 8 squad has been one of our most committed squads, with many



girls attending practice. They played extremely well winning 3 out of 4 of their qualifying games and just missed out on a place in the final. There was some excellent batting by left-hander, Zara Blanchard and also good fielding by Isla Smart and Imogen Gill.

The year 7 squad has also shown a big improvement over the season. Rain affected play in their Calderdale tournament, so the girls took part indoors in a modified game of rounders, with our team winning two and losing one of their games. Clara Burgess excelled with her batting skills and Harriet Ayres with her fielding skills, along with Sohana Podapati in 2<sup>nd</sup> base.

**TENNIS**

Both our U13 and U15 boys and girls teams played in the LTA West Yorkshire division B leagues this Summer. The U13 and U15 boys won their leagues with the U13 and U15 girls finishing as runners up losing to Bradford Grammar, but beating Woodhouse Grove Schools. The teams also played a fixture against Huddersfield Grammar School with the U13s boys and girls winning overall and the U15 boys and girls losing in some closely contested matches.

Well done to all the tennis players who represented school.

**U13s:**

Zain Fayaz, Yahya Orabi, Rakshan Ramakrishnan, Sebby Hawke, Max Vandervelde

Zoya Fayaz, Clara Burgess, Harriet Ayres, Zara Blanchard, Belinda Christofides, Riya Kanetkar.

**U15s:**

George Wang, Owen Whyton, Anas Orabi, Ainesh, Harshil Arun Prabu Raja, Kyle Skelton

Farwah Asim. Maryam Adeel, Risha Nandish, Aliza Afzal, Sahanshila Gurung, Eva Rosa De Vittoris, Dinuli Devasurendra.

**HOUSE ATHLETICS  
CHAMPIONSHIPS 2023  
WINNERS**

**Kings House**

Congratulations!

# House Music Final 2023

Well, what an eventful evening! Thursday 20th July saw the return of the House Music Final after a 4 year break! The audience enjoyed some wonderful solo performances on violin, cornet, piano, trombone, guitar, drums and saxophone. We also had some memorable ensemble performances and it was lovely to see the students collaborating with sixth form captains in the open access House Choirs. Staff and sixth form then entertained us with their 'Beatles' themed performances including dancing, costumes, Beatles masks and house mascots.



Well done to Queens, who pipped Porter to the title and became House Music Champions 2023! An amazing evening and a great return to a great tradition.

Looking forward to next year already!



## Mental Health & Wellbeing

Taking excellent care of the emotional health of our students, parents/carers and staff is a key priority in our School Improvement Plan. Last year we were successful in securing the Carnegie Mental Health in Schools Excellence Award.

We continue to work to further strengthen our support for emotional well being.

In February the school community came together to mark Children's Mental Health Week with a series of activities and events.

On a recent training day, Wellbeing Workshops were held giving members of staff the chance to either take part in sporting activities or in creative workshops including

- Ceramics (coil pot building)
- Textiles (felt making)
- Graphics (decorative lettering)
- Cooking
- and a DT workshop in marquetry.



## Term Dates

### 2023 Autumn Term

**Inset Day (School closed to students):** Monday 4 September

**Re-open (Year 7 and 12 only):** Tuesday 5 September

**Re-open (All Year Groups):** Wednesday 6 September

**Closes Half Term:** Friday 27 October

**Re-open:** Monday 6 November

**Inset Day (School closed to students):** Friday 24 November (Disaggregated)

**Closes End of Term :** Friday 22 December

## Sept/Oct Calendar

4 Sept	Staff INSET Day - school closed to students
5	School open to Y7 and Y12 only
6	School open to all students
11	Y7-10-12 photos (Gillman & Soame)
12	Year 11 Parents' Information Evening
13	CHPTA AGM meeting 6.30pm
21	Y12 Parents' Information Evening
23	11+ Entrance Exam
27	Whole School Photo (Gillman & Soame)
4 Oct	CHPTA meeting 7.00pm
5	Y13 Parents' Information Evening
26	CHS Piano Festival
27	School closes for Half Term



## Head Boy and Girl

Introducing our new appointments to the student leadership team.: Sophie Lote is Head Girl, Haris Rathore is Head Boy, and Isabel Harrison, Miles Rowland and Amelie Thomson are their super capable deputies.

Congratulations to them on their appointment!

## Old Crossleyans Reunion

Continuing a longstanding school tradition, the annual reunion of old scholars took place in school on Saturday 1st July. It was a well-attended and successful event, organised by the Old Crossleyans Association, full of friendships and reminiscences, with special reunions for the following groups:

60 Years since starting (1963-1970)

50 Years since leaving (1966-1973)

50 Years since starting (1973-1980)

Great interest was taken in the many photographs and other items on display from the School Archives, generating a number of fascinating conversations, along with requests for information.

Next year's special reunion will include a special reunion of those for whom it will have been 50 years since leaving (1967-1974)



## PTA News

### Crossley Heath Parent Teacher Association

The CHPTA would like to thank all parents that have supported our fundraising this year.

#### Volunteers Needed

We are a registered charity and always need more volunteers, from running a stall, to co-ordinating events or being a member of the committee. If you would like to get involved and help make a difference for our students, why not come along to one of our monthly meetings, or email [cha@crossleyheath.org.uk](mailto:cha@crossleyheath.org.uk).



[www.facebook.com/CrossleyHeathPTA](https://www.facebook.com/CrossleyHeathPTA)

## Hellos and Goodbyes

We say goodbye this term to Kris Hattam (PE), Nadia Rasul (Science), Scarlett Gaukrodger (Geography) and Zoe Groom (Science). Also Miss Gillespie (Head of Geography) who moves on to pastures new after 14 years. Wishing them all the best!

Fond farewells go to Mrs Woolliscroft, (Senior Finance Assistant), started January 1990, Mrs Hill (History Teacher), started October 1999, Mr Firth (Maths Teacher), started August 2003 and Mrs Lea (Head of Biology), started 2001, all begin their retirement and are looking forward to a steadier pace of life.

We look forward to welcoming our new staff in September:

- Claire Johnson - Department Leader of Geography
- Isaac Riley - Teacher of Maths / Yr8 Progress Leader
- James Barran - Teacher of Maths
- Stephen Flood - Teacher of Maths
- Joanne Doig - Teacher of English
- Rose Clissit - Teacher of English
- Amanda Johnson - Teacher of Biology