

DISPATCHES

The Crossley Heath School News



Spring Term 2026



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Head Teacher's Journal

"Sports and the Arts at our heart"

Of equal importance to academic excellence are the strength of character and happiness fostered by sports and the arts! It is therefore with great pride that we see our centuries of heritage for sport and performing arts shine as brightly as ever from the students of today.

Sporting Success

When asked "Is Crossley Heath a rugby school?", we absolutely are, for boys and for girls. Yet, we are also a football, netball, cricket, badminton, tennis, basketball, table tennis, athletics, rounders, dance, swimming and martial arts school. **We love sport and aim to encourage participation and excellence in all possible sports for our boys and our girls.**

It has been wonderful to see the growth and success of our school sports programmes this last year thanks to the whole Crossley Heath School Family and our community:

- In Rugby:** We have established weekly girl's rugby coaching and see a number of our girls playing for local clubs like the Crocs, Heath, Rish and Brods. Our boys' teams have now reached three Yorkshire finals in the past two years and the Canada tours are back, as we currently play host to our Canadian friends ahead of returning across the Atlantic in 2027!
- In Football:** We have girls and boys' teams competing across Calderdale and Yorkshire on a regular basis, with an appearance in the Cup Final under our belt and several students playing for professional clubs!
- In Netball:** We are bringing home Calderdale Cups on an annual basis, with many students playing for West Yorkshire and netball at the heart of our girls' tour schedule in Dubai and on our next tour to Sri Lanka!
- In Cricket:** We have professional coaching underway each week for our girls and boys as part of our Cricket Excellence Programme. We have students playing and touring internationally. Whilst every lunchtime girls and boys hone their skills in our wonderful outdoor nets!
- In Badminton:** We have achieved an unprecedented feat as both our girls and boys have reached the National Schools Badminton finals. We are so very proud of them!



Sport is so very important to our school that we have launched a Sporting Excellence Programme in our Sixth Form. Created in partnership with leading northern University Leeds Beckett this will support our top sports performers pursuing dual careers by excelling both academically and athletically. Crossley Heath has already seen students combine outstanding A Levels with sporting success, such as Olympian judoka Sophie Cox and Olympic runner Max Burgin. We want to help many more students achieve these dual ambitions, thus retaining and attracting outstanding sporting students to be part of our Sixth Form.





Head Teacher's Journal *continued* ...

Performing Arts Excellence

We love Music, Drama and Dance! There is so much talent in the Performing Arts from our wonderful students, and we are determined to create all possible opportunities to showcase their talents in school, alongside championing their individual performances outside school too.

Since the start of this school year, we have already seen so much variety in our performing arts:

In Music: Every single day our school is alive with music thanks to daily instrumental lessons, students playing on entry to assemblies and even playing the pianos on our corridors. Our performance showcase events for families have been amazing, ranging from piano festival to varied solo performances and of course our choir and band sparkling for prize giving and the Minster. Crossley Heath musicians are also getting used to travelling with our bi-annual European tour approaching and our big band's performance at the Royal Albert Hall!



In Drama and Dance: The return of our annual school productions has been a joy. Our team of staff and students are working away each week acting, dancing, singing and making props ready for the summer sensation of Matilda. The promotion on TikTok has reached legendary status, with over a quarter of a million views!

In House events: The legendary House Music and House Drama events have been as big and bright as ever, creating memories to last. This year also sees the inception of House Dance as part of our Arts Showcase, where visual arts, fashion and dance fuse into a wonderful evening of performance!



Thank you

This amazing range of sporting and performing arts experiences only exist because of the teamwork of staff, students, partner coaches, parents/carers and business sponsors. There are countless hours invested by our wonderful staff into extra-curricular clubs, training, supporting fixtures, leading trips and organising events. Inspired by the motivation our students give us through their kindness, hard work and talent. We are so grateful to the coaches who come into schools each week to further grow the range of sports we offer, many of these supporting us voluntarily. We are equally grateful to the staff and instrumental teachers who develop our students love and skill in music and acting. Furthermore, the cost of new facilities (the cricket nets and soon to arrive 2G pitches), tours and kit would be beyond our reach without the generosity of our alumni, parent and community donors and sponsors. It is a true School Family effort, and we hope you can all see the amazing difference it is making! Thank you! Mr Jones.

*Thank
You!*



KINDNESS



COURAGE



EXCELLENCE



KS4 Reading Canon

By exploring texts within the school's literacy reading **canon**, students can recognise their own communities while engaging in worlds very different from their own, fostering empathy and a broader perspective.

KS4 READING CANON

- Girl with a Pearl Earring by Tracy Chevalier
- The Da Vinci Code (Young Adult Adaptation) by Dan Brown
- The King Must Die by Mary Renault
- I, Mona Lisa by Natasha Solomon
- Every Exquisite Thing by Laura Steven

Visual Arts

KS4 READING CANON

- Bad Science by Ben Goldacre
- The Body: A Guide for Occupants by Bill Bryson
- Aroused by Randi Flutter Epstein
- Life on Earth by David Attenborough

Biology

KS4 READING CANON

- Code: The Hidden Language of Computer Hardware and Software by Charles Petzold
- Computational Thinking: A beginner's guide to problem-solving and programming by Karl Beecher
- How Computers Really Work: A Hands-On Guide to the Inner Workings of the Machine by Matthew Justice
- The Digital Age: How to Live (in Peace) with Smart Machines by Nigel Shadbolt and Roger Hampson
- You Look Like a Thing and I Love You: How AI Works and Why It's Making the World a Weirder Place by Janelle Shane

Computer Science

KS4 READING CANON

- How I made it by Rachel Bridge
- Intelligent Teen Investor by Peter Holler
- Business for beginners by Usborne
- How they started - digital businesses by David Lester

Business

A goal of a grammar school education is to teach essential literacy skills using texts from the reading **canon**, preparing students for future academic success and meaningful cultural conversations.

KS4 READING CANON

- The Secret Diary of a British Muslim by Tez Ilyas
- (Un)Arranged Marriage by Bali Rai
- Dear Martin by Nic Stone
- Sophies World by Jostine Gaardner
- The Life of Pi by Yann Martel

Religious Studies

KS4 READING CANON

- The Picture of Dorian Gray by Oscar Wilde
- The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood
- 1984 by George Orwell
- Rebecca by Daphne Du Maurier
- Great Expectations by Charles Dickens
- Never Let Me Go by Kazuo Ishiguro
- The Great Gatsby by F Scott Fitzgerald

English

KS4 READING CANON

- How to Think Like a Mathematician by Kevin Houston
- Alex's Adventures in Numberland by Alex Bellos
- Humble Pi: A Comedy of Maths Errors by Matt Parker
- Why Do Buses Come in Threes? by Rob Eastaway & Jeremy Wyndham

Mathematics

KS4 READING CANON

- Factfulness by Hans Rosling
- How Bad Are Bananas? By Mike Berners-lee
- The New Silk Roads By Peter Frankopan
- The Almighty Dollar By Dharshini David
- Disaster By Choice By Ian Kelman

Geography

KS4 READING CANON

- What to Listen for in Music by Aaron Copeland
- The complete Classical Music guide by DK
- Scoring the Screen: The Secret Language of Film Music by Andy Hill
- Electric Shock: From the Gramophone to the iPhone - 125 Years of Pop Music by Peter Doggett
- Essential Music Theory by Andrew Surmani, Karen Surmani and Mortus Manus

Music

UKMT Intermediate Mathematical Challenge 2026



Here are some of the success stories from the Intermediate maths challenge that was held on the 28th January. 19 students from years 7-9 got through to the next round, with 3 year 9s taking part in a 2 hour Olympiad paper! Best in school was Muhammed Ali in year 9 which is a great achievement considering he was competing against year 10 and 11 students!



UKMT Regional Final Mathematical Challenge 2026



We are so proud of the following 4 students who competed in the UKMT regional final Maths Team Challenge on the 4th March and WON!

This is the first time we have won this event in over 10 years! Well done to the team! Jesse, Sienna, Muhammed and Sheza.

National final here we come!



KS3 Science Reading Challenge



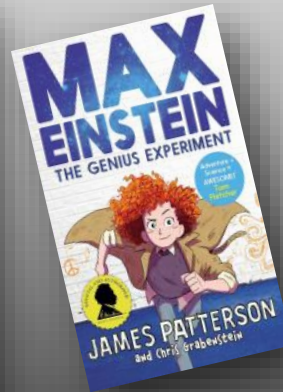
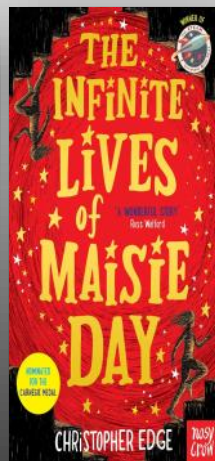
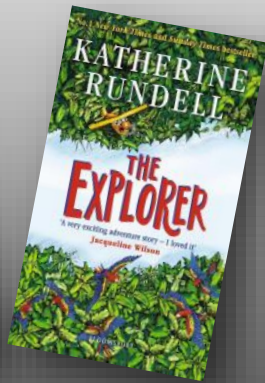
Zohra 8D

The Crossley Heath School Science Reading Challenge was an exciting opportunity for me to increase my science knowledge.

I read 4 books over the course of the challenge.

I read: 'Two weeks with the Queen': taught me the challenges that come with illness and how to overcome them; 'Kay's Anatomy': taught me various different facts about the body, like you blink for a month each year; 'Time travelling with a hamster': taught me how to calculate how far a storm is (when you see lightning start counting slowly until you hear thunder. Then divide the number by 3. This'll give how far the storm is in km/s); 'The infinite lives of Maisie Day': explained Einstein's theory of Relativity, which was time passes slower for someone travelling near the speed of light compared to someone standing still.

This challenge helped me learn various facts; some which were more beneficial than others.



House Debating Competition

One of the final (and maybe decisive) House competitions of the year took place just before Easter with Kings and Savile debating whether lynx should be reintroduced to the UK and Porter and Queens arguing over whether the voting age should be lowered to 16 years. The following students had researched, prepared and rehearsed together as teams and then held convincing debates:

Kings: Gauri Chaudhry, Arnav Sha, Hana Akhtar

Queens: Advaita Kala, Dani Estefan, Sriven Pasika

Porter: Reeti Singh, Aaban Nawaz, Jannat Mushtaq

Savile: Joanna George, Becca Dakin, Ansh Chinjwani

Well done to all of the students who spoke confidently and persuasively but especially to Kings who gained the most points and are the House Debating Winners!





Olympic Inspiration at Crossley Heath

On the last week of term we had the pleasure of welcoming Olympic boxer Lewis Richardson into school for what proved to be a very inspiring and memorable day for our students and staff.

Lewis spent the day with us sharing his journey, experiences and advice, giving students a real insight into what it takes to compete at the highest level of sport. He began with assemblies for our younger year groups, where he spoke openly and engagingly about pursuing your dreams, the dedication and resilience required to succeed as an athlete, and the importance of maintaining a strong focus on education alongside sporting ambitions. He also spoke thoughtfully about managing challenges and how to channel negative emotions in a positive and productive way, messages that resonated strongly with students.

At lunchtime, Lewis met with a group of our elite sporting Year 11 students for a more informal discussion. This gave students the opportunity to ask questions, hear more about his personal journey, and gain valuable advice about balancing sport, studies and future aspirations. He also gave a hint as to what life is really like in the Olympic village!

The afternoon saw Lewis take to our PE lessons, where students were given the exciting opportunity to take part in boxing training sessions. It was fantastic to see students so engaged and enthusiastic, learning new skills and experiencing first-hand the discipline and focus required in the sport.

The visit was a success and left a lasting impression across the school. We are incredibly grateful to Lewis for giving his time so generously and for inspiring our students with his story.

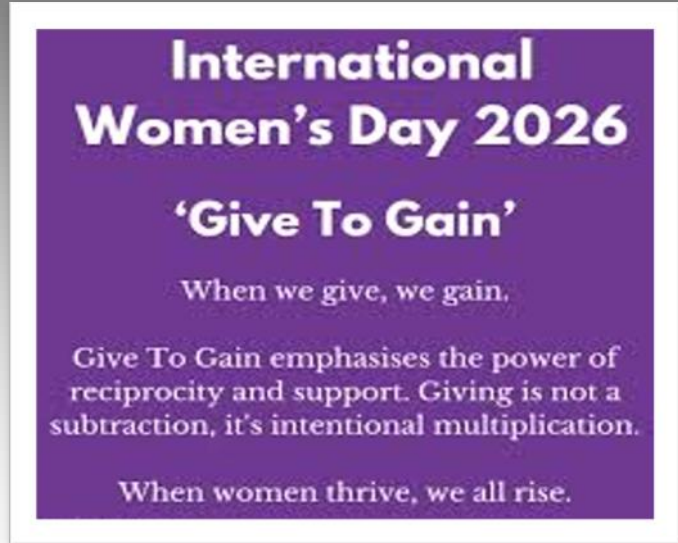
We look forward to welcoming him back to Crossley Heath in the future!



Olympic Inspiration at Crossley Heath continued



Celebrating International Women's Day at Crossley Heath



Earlier in March, we were proud to celebrate International Women's Day by recognising some of the remarkable young women in our school community.

To mark the occasion, we invited staff to nominate students they particularly admire. The responses we received were a real pleasure to read, celebrating a wide range of achievements and reflecting our core school values of kindness, courage and excellence. It was particularly encouraging to see so many different types of success recognised, from academic achievement to personal growth and contribution to school life.

Among those nominated were students achieving exceptional academic success, as well as those who have shown impressive determination and progress over time. Some nominations recognised young women who have overcome illness or who take on additional responsibilities, such as supporting family members, alongside their studies.



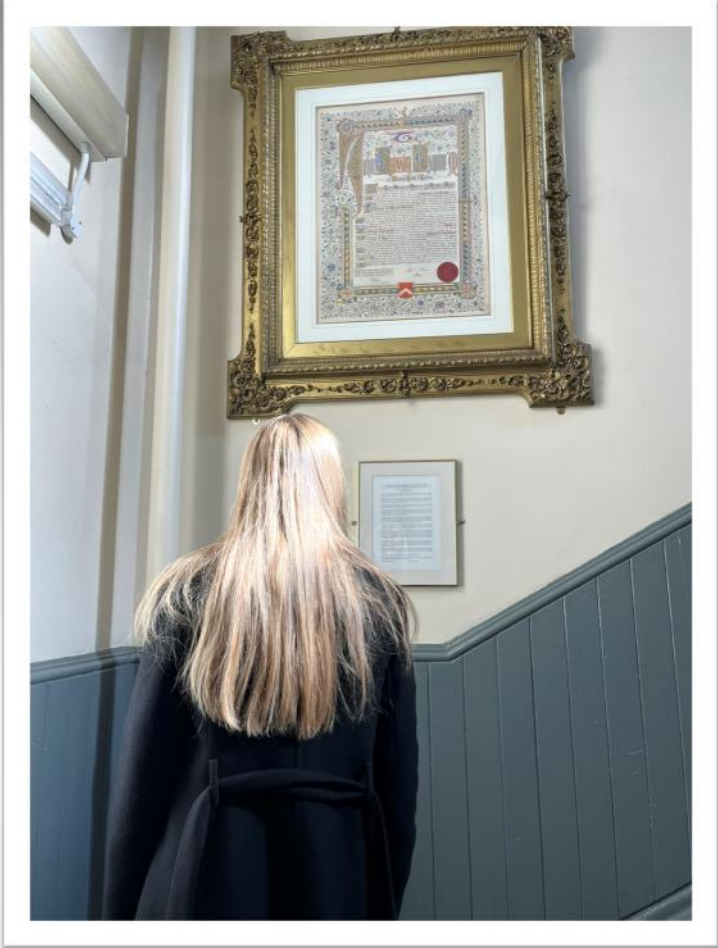
Staff also highlighted students who successfully balance demanding commitments in sport, music and the arts, demonstrating both dedication and resilience. Others were recognised for the way they consistently show kindness, support their peers and make a positive contribution to the wider school community.

We shared a selection of these nominations on our social media channels, where they received some lovely and well-deserved feedback. While we were only able to highlight a small number of students, we know there are many more who make us proud every day!





Supporting Our School's Historic Building



We were delighted to welcome Kate Dearden MP for Halifax back to school to discuss the Condition Improvement Fund (CIF) funding we have received to support the upkeep of our historic building.

We are incredibly grateful to have secured this funding, which has contributed towards essential electrical safety works and statutory compliance improvements. These are vital in ensuring that our school remains a safe and fully compliant environment for students and staff.

Maintaining a building of this age and scale is a significant responsibility. Alongside preserving its character and historic features, we must also ensure it meets modern health and safety standards, while managing the ongoing costs associated with heating, maintenance and repair. This requires careful planning and continued investment.

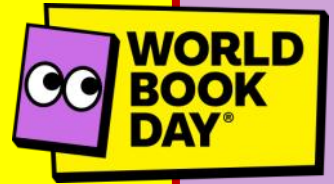
We feel very proud and fortunate to call this beautiful Grade II listed building our home. It holds great importance not only for our current students and staff, but also for our alumni and the wider community. Support such as CIF funding plays a crucial role in helping us preserve and improve the building for future generations.

We would like to thank Kate for taking the time to visit the school and learn more about the work involved in caring for such a historic and much-valued building.





Inter House and LRC World Book Day Celebrations



Book Exchange



In March as part of World Book Day celebrations, we ran another successful Book Exchange. This enables staff and students to refresh their bookshelves without spending any money. It's also a great way to share your favourite reads and discover new ones and conversations that come out of sharing books are always so enriching. It's a fun, low-pressure way to bring staff and students together.

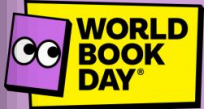


Students and Staff Inter House Fancy Dress Competition

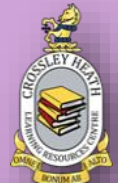
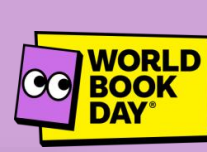


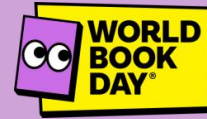
One of our best ever World Book Days yet! With so many joining in! On the day itself, Thursday 5 March 2026, we celebrated **World Book Day** with a fantastic fancy dress competition! Staff and students came to school dressed as their favourite book characters, bringing stories to life around the school. From classic heroes to modern fictional characters, the creativity on display made the day both fun and memorable.

The day was a wonderful reminder of how books can spark imagination and inspire a love of reading. Well done to all the students for their amazing outfits and enthusiasm! A fantastic event enjoyed by all.



Inter House and LRC World Book Day Celebrations continued





World Book Day Inter House Short Story Competition

The Crossley Heath Inter House Short Story competition has become an integral part of our World Book Day celebrations and once again proved popular this year, with many entries from across the year groups.

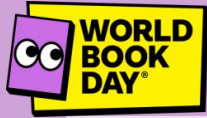
The stories were required to be no more than 500 words in length, with the students making the most of being able to let their imaginations fly in their submissions.

Competition was strong, with many thoughtful and dramatic entries and led to joint winners being chosen:

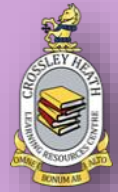
Provisional Licence by Seth of form10D Queens House
and

Who Are the Actual Heroes? By Shanaya of form 8E Porter House
Both of which can be read overleaf, along with a few other notable entries.





World Book Day Inter House Short Story Competition



Joint Winners

Seth form 10D of Queens House and Shanaya form 8E of Porter House

Provisional Licence

By Seth 10D Queens House

Joint Winner



The mountainside village had never seen such a miserable day. The children stared forlornly out at the wintry world beyond their windows.

Someone acutely aware of the horrendous torrent of hail was Provisional Johnson. Battling the elements, he trudged toward the cosy sanctuary of his mountain home. He liked simplicity, always wearing his spotless trousers, laminated shirt, regulation black velcro shoes (laces are an unnecessary hazard). He encountered the same people on his commute, brought the same bland sandwich daily, and every evening his mother called to berate him on his stubborn monotony. But this evening was different. So when she rang during his usual parsnip soup dinner, he would prove her wrong.

"Hello again, you repulsive child," she whined.

"Hello mother," Provisional sighed.

Provisional had been so named as his parents couldn't agree on a name. After relatives began to adopt the title, and the couple tired of arguing, it became permanent.

"What have you failed to achieve today?" she spat.

"Actually, I'm learning to drive," he proudly retorted.

The unpleasant woman faltered, before regaining her composure. "Driving lessons?" she frowned. "How uncharacteristically normal of you."

The next morning, Provisional changed his routine to become more interesting. He swapped his usual grey shirt for an exciting beige, brushed his teeth with a new brand of toothpaste, and even walked 14% faster than usual. When he arrived at the driving centre to meet his instructor, the rain was crashing down.

"Hey," called the instructor. "Nice to meet you, my name's Clive."

"Hello," said Provisional. "I'm Provisional. I want to drive."

"Cool", smiled Clive. "Let's hop in the car. I'll show you the ropes."

"I know a little," Provisional told him.

Clive replied, "That's dope."

The lesson began with a circuit of the car park before moving to the narrow streets, under the careful instruction of Charismatic Clive, as Provisional considered him. As he navigated the winding mountain lane, the sky darkened and the car climbed further into fog.

"It's getting a little hard to see," chuckled Provisional nervously.

"Oh, don't worry, that's what these lessons are for. We got this. It'll clear any second anyway."

But the fog did not clear. It thickened, and folded around the windows of the car. Despite the cold, Provisional began to sweat and he noticed the frequency of Clive's reassurances was dropping off alarmingly. By now the road was too narrow to turn back.

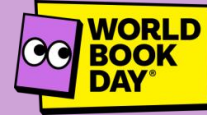
"Mind the ice," Clive murmured. "Go slow."

Provisional could hardly feel his quivering hands on the steering wheel. He barely noticed as the tyres lost traction on the road. It was only when the vehicle began slipping down the steep hillside, that he finally snapped back to reality. But by then it was too late.

The next day was even more miserable than the last. Provisional's mother regretted her harsh words, and the town mourned the loss.

But no-one had heard of a driving instructor called Clive and the driving centre had been closed for the past five years.





Who Are the Actual Heroes?

By Shanaya 8E Porter House

Joint Winner



In a quiet lane of Varanasi, not far from the ancient steps leading to the Ganges River, stood a library most people had forgotten. But Aarav hadn't.

At thirteen, Aarav felt stuck between worlds. Too old for fairy tales, everyone said. Too young for serious conversations. His friends were busy with cricket practice and exam coaching classes. Aarav preferred the dusty calm of the town library, where stories did not laugh if you asked difficult questions.

On World Book Day, the school announced a competition: Write about a hero. Aarav felt a familiar sinking feeling. Heroes were fearless. Strong. Certain. He was none of those.

That evening, he wandered into the history section and picked up a children's biography of Rani Lakshmi Bai. He had read it years ago, but this time he noticed something different. Not just her bravery, but her doubt. She had been young. She had faced impossible choices. She must have been afraid. Yet she had acted anyway.

Next, he opened a worn copy of the Panchatantra. The clever animals were rarely the strongest creatures in the forest. They survived because they observed, planned, and chose their moments wisely.

Finally, he found a collection of Malgudi Days. The heroes there were ordinary people: shopkeepers, children, teachers. Their battles were small but meaningful, fought inside homes and classrooms rather than on battlefields.

Aarav leaned back in his chair, listening to the ceiling fan hum above him. Maybe heroism was not about swords or applause. The library clock struck six. The building should have felt emptier, but instead it felt awake. A draft of wind slipped through the half open window and flipped a page. Courage a voice seemed to whisper, is doing what is right even when you are unsure. Aarav stiffened. It was only his imagination. Still, another page turned. Wisdom, came a softer murmur, is listening before speaking. The words did not frighten him. They felt like reminders he had been waiting to hear. He realized he had been waiting to feel brave before acting. But every story he loved showed the opposite. People acted first. Bravery followed. The shelves around him seemed taller somehow, heavy with thousands of lives and lessons. Each author had once faced a blank page, uncertain and hopeful at the same time.

Write about a hero.

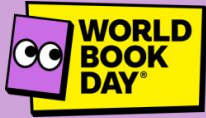
A slow understanding settled inside him. That night, Aarav did not write about a queen or a warrior. He wrote about a boy who saw a classmate being mocked and chose to speak up. The boy's voice shook. His hands trembled. He was afraid of becoming the next target. But he spoke anyway. Aarav wrote about fear, and choice, and quiet strength.

The next morning, when it was his turn to read, his throat felt dry. His classmates shifted impatiently. He almost sat down. Then he remembered the whispers between the pages. He continued. When he finished, the room was silent for a heartbeat. Then someone began to clap. Others followed. Later, his teacher smiled gently and said, "The truest heroes are often the quietest." Walking home, Aarav passed the old library. The windows glowed gold in the evening light, as if holding secrets.

For the first time, he understood. Books do not simply tell us about heroes. They show us that courage grows in ordinary hearts. And sometimes, it begins with turning a single page.



Inter House and LRC World Book Day Celebrations continued



Prey to the System by Lois Russell 10E Queens House

I often find myself pondering the simple construct that we call perception. How the interrelations between our experiences impact the angle at which we choose to seek a relevant conclusion to an enquiry.

Take, for example, a fox.

A ruthless predator driven purely by instinct, on the surface.

Imagine that every single day, this fox consumes one rabbit; tears its supple flesh limb from limb with the meticulous precision of a creator that works not for the materialistic benefit, but for the adoration of his craft.

Our fox does not hunt excessively, but rather one rabbit is the exact portion required for survival. Occasionally, his stomach will cramp with hunger, he may keel pver from the meagre serving.

Regardless, he refuses to succumb to his earthly temptations, refraining from the allure of his desires. The fox understands the suffering that would result from such a mortal display of sin.

Bearing the weight of this burden leads to constant fits of mewling and whimpering throughout the harsh nights, a harrowing battle between the physical and the moral. Our fox's softness of disposition is ultimately the hamartia that causes his adversity.

This inescapable loop wears down his spirits, until he can seldom think without self-inflicted torture ensuing.

Our fox begins to deprive himself of nourishment completely.

He was not designed for the role of predator. His heart simply beats too ferociously.

Shivering, bitter nights follow days of dry heaving follow evenings of calling for companions that were never there.

After all, no one wishes to taint their image with the friendship of a fox. A bloodthirsty monster.

His last breath is a lonely sigh. If only, he thinks, I had never eaten a rabbit at all. Perhaps then I would be worthy of existence. His body will decompose without burial. Flies will rejoice at the sight of his rotting corpse, once animated with naïve hope and foolish determination. This Earth was not built for a fox.

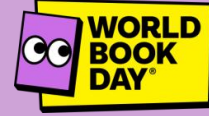
His angst lasted decisively longer than that of his meals – that we can agree upon. He cried until his throat was hoarse. He screamed at injustice, begged her to look him in those soft, brown eyes and explain her cruel ways.

The problem lay in that he was never acknowledged during these times.

In life, I have accepted that all must suffer. Our predecessors have suffered and our children will suffer.

Only society may decide who is worthy of protection or punishment. This I shall always wonder: Is the victim simply the one who bleeds the loudest?





Lured by Duwa Rehman 8A Kings House



She stood outside the ivy strangled house, brimming with curiosity. That house had stood, towering over its neighbouring houses, for year, lifeless. Its eyes curtained by shaggy, worn cloth. Nobody had lived in it for years. Nobody had explored it either; now it demanded her curiosity. Excitement crawled up her spine, after all, how could going into an abandoned house hurt her?

Her excitement fooled her, cruelly leaving no room for extra doubt or caution.

She stepped in, her black boots gently clicking on the floor. She looked around with a sweet smile, before even knowing what she'd brought upon herself. The door shut with a resounding click, sealing an innocent girls' fate. She turned on her heel, slock enveloping her, as it dawned on her that she was trapped, heart pounding against her chest, intent on escape. The house stank of rotting bodies and blood.

Her breath quickened, as she tried to calm herself, but then something caught her eye. A note, pen ink smudged on it, read:

I'm writing this as fast as I can, for this house is dangerous. My family.. GONE. Go to the TV for more info.

Please escape this fate, Yours Sincerely

Tom

P.S You need to slot its CD in.

She scavenged the house for the CD, going through the kitchen, where rats ran galore; the basement, awakening some stray bats, until she found it. There was a CD collection in the sitting room, amongst battered CDs, new and worn. There was a sticky note stuck to it:

You found the CD

Tom

She wondered why the note hadn't mentioned where the CD was kept, or what happened to his family. The note could have been detailed, yet it was full of riddles and filled her curious mind with questions, with no answers provided. And why did the person set up a whole scavenger hunt for her, when he could have simplified it for her. She slid the CD in. The TV bleeped to life, a single image flickered. Death emoji

That's when it closed on her. It was a trick, the house locking and the frivolous scavenger hunt, trapping even the brightest of minds.

She sensed him before she saw him. Arms grabbed her, and she struggled. She wasn't going down without a fight. A scream shattered through her, with the force of her entire being. No sound escaped. She didn't stop there. She squirmed, kicked, bit his hand with her harmless teeth, with all her wit, charm, her whole life force. He smiled down at her, his black hair messy, green eyes filled with greed, his milky white fangs waiting to sink into human flesh. He played with her, like a predator does with its prey, green eyes holding the promise of her death. When she managed to squirm out of his steel grip, she whisked out a Swiss knife, gripping it with warning flashing in her honey brown eyes. Her red hair flowed behind her, a fire brighter than ever, a fire that would flicker and die when his playfulness was over. Then, he kissed her, death crudely imitating affection and love. Her reaction was immediate, she pulled away before plunging the feeble blade into his chest. Anger flickered clearly on his face, and his playfulness ended. She struck him, across the face, as his blood spilled. He pinned her against the wall, glaring at her, as she past in his face, clearly not going down without a fight.

But, little by little, her strength waned, her red hair soon became limp, her candle of hope soon snuffed. He sank his teeth into her neck, ending her. But when he laid her down, he placed her carefully, her fire like hair splayed around her. He lay her down as a warrior rather than a victim, her mouth set in a line of determination.

And her death changed his stone heart...





Year 11 Computer Science Disneyland–Paris Trip



At the start of February, sixteen Year 11 students embarked on a truly magical adventure as The Crossley Heath School launched its very first Computer Science trip to Disneyland Paris. Lead by Mr Charlesworth and accompanied by Mrs Griggs, the group took part in an immersive experience and a seminar designed to reveal the extraordinary technology that powers one of the world’s most iconic entertainment destinations. The subject came vividly to life beyond the classroom, as students explored how computing underpins the seamless operation of a global theme park welcoming thousands of guests every day. From the moment we arrived, it was clear that this was far more than a recreational visit - it was an opportunity to see theory transformed into real-world application on an extraordinary scale, including areas where computing may discreetly underpin the smooth operations of such a successful and reputable park.

The technical depth extended into ride engineering with Attractions such as The Twilight Zone Tower of Terror. The rides demonstrate how computing can create unpredictability within carefully controlled parameters. While each drop sequence feels “random” to riders, students were able to experience that complex algorithms determine varying drop patterns, ensuring a different experience each time while maintaining rigorous safety standards.

Particularly engaging was the exploration of how computing controls live entertainment. The spectacular evening shows that combine fireworks, projection mapping, synchronised lighting, music and increasingly, drone technology, depend on meticulous programming and timing. It was a powerful reminder that Computer Science is not just about writing code, but it is about precision, testing, reliability and problem-solving in high-stakes environments.



Year 11 Computer Science—Disneyland—Paris Trip continued

Beyond individual attractions, the trip highlighted operational logistics on a remarkable scale. Students were able to observe important aspects of such busy parks, and this included optimising and receiving live queue times using data modelling via the Disneyland Paris app, managing crowd flow across the two parks, to synchronising transport and hotel services, computing sits at the heart of every operational decision.

Throughout the visit, our students were exemplary ambassadors for the school, including during traveling, free time in the parks, and on an evening at the Hotel Cheyenne. Their curiosity during the seminar sessions, thoughtful questions about computing systems, and enthusiasm for understanding how technology enables creativity and entertainment were noted. It was a privilege to see them connecting classroom learning to such an ambitious real-world context.

As the first Computer Science trip of its kind at Crossley Heath, this visit to Disneyland Paris represents the beginning of an exciting new tradition. It reflects the department’s commitment to broadening horizons and demonstrating the relevance of computing beyond examinations. In a world increasingly shaped by digital systems, showing students how their studies translate into global industries is both inspiring and essential.



We are incredibly proud of the sixteen Year 11 students who took part, and grateful for the support that made the trip possible. The experience was unforgettable - not simply for the rides and spectacles, but for the deeper understanding gained of how Computer Science quietly powers the magic behind the scenes.

As our students discovered, even in a place built on imagination and storytelling, it is computing that ensures the magic runs on time.

Mr Charlesworth – Trip Leader



Visual Arts Department

Creative Futures Take Flight at Crossley Heath

In January 2026, the art department at The Crossley Heath School came alive with colour, creativity and career inspiration as it hosted its annual Creative Careers Industries Event - a celebration of the many pathways available in the world of art and design.

Designed to broaden horizons and spark ambition, the event invited students to immerse themselves in hands-on workshops inspired by real creative professions. From Fine Art and Illustration to Graphic Design, Architecture, Animation, Game Design, and Fashion Design, the programme showcased the extraordinary diversity of careers that begin with a passion for creativity.



A Mascot is Born

The event also encouraged younger students to channel their imagination into a special competition. Year 7 and Year 8 pupils were invited to design a brand-new mascot for the art department - a character that would embody creativity, colour and community.

The winning design came from Muhammad-Musa, whose vibrant and imaginative character "Palett the Parrot" captured the judges' attention. Bursting with personality and artistic flair, Palett the Parrot now stands as a lively symbol of the department's spirit - bold, expressive and unafraid to stand out.



Visual Arts Department continued ...



Inspiring Creativity at University of Huddersfield

As part of our recent careers event, Year 12 Art and Design Technology students were given an exciting opportunity to visit the University of Huddersfield and experience university-level study first-hand. The trip offered a valuable insight into the wide range of creative courses available and allowed students to immerse themselves in practical, hands-on workshops.

The day began in the art studios, where students took part in a dynamic mark-making workshop. Using ink, they created observational drawings inspired by objects around the studio space. This session encouraged experimentation with line and texture, pushing students to explore new techniques and approaches in their work.

Building on this creative momentum, students were then challenged to collaborate on a large-scale abstract piece. By tearing up sections of their individual drawings, they worked together to construct a striking wall hanging. This activity not only highlighted the power of collaboration but also demonstrated how individual ideas can be transformed into a cohesive and impactful collective artwork.

In the afternoon, the focus shifted to the textiles department. Here, students explored the process of fabric design using sublimation inks. They began by creating collaged designs on paper before transferring their artwork onto fabric using a professional heat press. This hands-on experience provided valuable insight into textile production techniques and gave students a taste of the practical skills developed within university courses.

The visit was both inspiring and informative, giving students a clearer understanding of creative pathways in higher education. Experiences like this play a vital role in helping our young artists and designers envision their future and take confident steps towards their chosen careers.





Visual Arts Department continued

Visit To Liverpool

In February, Year 10, 12 and 13 students enjoyed an inspiring trip to Liverpool, immersing themselves in a full spectrum of artistic styles across the city.

The day began at Tate Liverpool, where bold contemporary works sparked thoughtful discussion and encouraged students to see art from new perspectives. From there, the group explored the vibrant street art of the Baltic Triangle, capturing the colour, scale and energy of the area's striking murals.

The visit concluded at the Walker Art Gallery, where timeless masterpieces offered a powerful contrast to the modern pieces seen earlier in the day.

From cutting-edge installations to classical paintings and urban murals, the trip celebrated creativity in all its forms. It was an enriching experience enjoyed by all.





Our Artsmark Journey Begins: Introducing Our New Arts Ambassadors

We are delighted to share an exciting new chapter in the creative life of our school as we begin our Artsmark **journey** and launch our newly formed Arts Leadership Team our Arts Ambassadors.

Artsmark is a nationally recognised award that celebrates a school's commitment to high-quality arts and cultural education. As part of this journey, we are strengthening opportunities for all students to engage with and experience the arts, both within and beyond the classroom.

A key step in this process has been the appointment of our Arts Ambassadors a team of students from Years 7–12 who have shown enthusiasm, creativity, and a genuine passion for the arts. The response to the application process was incredibly strong, and we are proud to have selected such a committed and talented group of students.

Within the team, students will take on a range of roles, including:

- Supporting performances and events
- Curating exhibitions and displays
- Promoting the arts through media and communication
- Exploring and sharing creative career pathways
- Acting as advocates for the arts across the school

The team has already begun meeting and is full of ideas for how to raise the profile of the arts. Plans are underway for our Arts Showcase event featuring student exhibitions, performances, and new opportunities for students to get involved in creative activities.

This initiative is not only about celebrating creativity, but also about developing leadership, confidence, and collaboration among our students. By giving young people a voice in shaping the arts, we are building a vibrant and inclusive creative community.

We look forward to sharing more updates as our Artsmark journey progresses and to celebrating the many achievements of our talented students.



**We're working
towards Artsmark**
Awarded by Arts
Council England



Eco Club

It has been a busy and successful term for the Eco Club. Students celebrated completing Level One of the RHS School Gardening Awards, recognising their work in developing gardening skills and improving the school's green spaces.

The club has also been making good progress towards the Eco-Schools Award, helping to promote sustainability across the school community. Members organised several litter picks around the school grounds, helping keep the site tidy and encouraging everyone to take pride in their environment.

Another highlight this term has been the start of a new herb garden beside the Technology block, which students hope will grow into a useful and attractive space for the school. Further, students planted cuttings of Aloe Vera and Spider plants and delivered them in decorated pots to staff around school.

To raise awareness, the Eco Club also shared a short film with the school community about the importance of recycling waste at Crossley Heath.

It has been a positive and productive term and the Eco Club looks forward to continuing its environmental work next term.





... MUSIC NEWS ... MUSIC NEWS ...

Instrumental lessons in school

It is great to see so many students accessing our instrumental lessons in school. We have nearly doubled the number of students taking instrumental lessons in school, in the last five years. For any student who is interested in having lessons on an instrument, please scan this QR code. Biographies from our wonderful staff and details of how to sign up can be found here...

In addition to this, you will have seen our Pupil Premium Promises and Promise Four relates to music. It states that we guarantee that the school will fund 50% of instrumental lessons and offer students access/loan of a musical instrument. If you would like some further information on this, or if you would like to arrange lessons for your child, please contact Mr Nimmo by email on musiclessons@crossleyheath.org.uk.

CROSSLEY HEATH MUSIC EXTRACURRICULAR

Instagram

Sign up for instrumental/vocal lessons at Crossley Heath

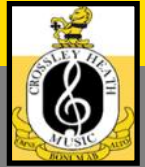
We offer lessons in: Voice, Piano, Woodwind, Strings, Brass, Drums, Acoustic/Electric Guitar and Classical Guitar

For more information and to meet the staff and access their contact info please scan the QR code below.

LEADERS OF TOMORROW

KINDNESS ✚ COURAGE ✚ EXCELLENCE

... MUSIC NEWS ... MUSIC NEWS ...



ABRSM exams

We have just had our biggest one-day exam session so far with 26 students taking exams. The list of students is to the right ...

Having just found out their results, it is brilliant to be able to report that all have passed. Particularly well done to Jayden, Lewis, Kieran, Amelia and Mouriyaan who passed with merit, David, Mei, Alexander and Jiana who passed with distinction, and Imogen who passed her grade 8!

In the last newsletter, we were waiting on the results of the students below. Delighted to be able to report some excellent results below..

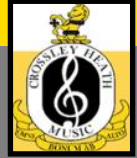
First name	Last name	Instrument	Grade
Sara	Asim	Piano	1
Karam	Atwal	Piano	4
Aadam	Ayoub	Piano	3
Jiana	Bino	Piano	1
	Boateng-		
Ethan	Amoako	Piano	2
Connor	Fielder	Trumpet	5
Amelia	Ford	Piano	1
Jayden	George Shilu	Flute	3
Imogen	Gill	Piano	8
Amy	Hanson	Clarinet	2
Isobella	Hawkins	Piano	1
Arihaan	Majumdar	Piano	2
Lewis	Nimmo	Clarinet	3
David	Nimmo	Flute	4
Ché	Nurse	Piano	5
		Alto Saxo-	
Kieran	Riley	phone	3
Aimée	Scott	Piano	3
Harshiv	Seth	Flute	3
Keira	Slyman	Piano	4
Alexander	Slyman	Piano	1
	Sri Sabari		
Mouriyaan	Anand	Piano	5
Lilly-May	Stead	Piano	5
		Alto Saxo-	
Meimei	Tat	phone	6
Evelyn	Woodhead	Piano	2
Mohammed	Yusuf-Khan	Piano	1
Muhammad	Zafeer	Piano	2

First name	Last name	Instrument	Grade
Isobel	Anderson	Alto Saxophone	3
William	Bell	Piano	6
Noah	Gee	Piano	3
Sai Venkat	Gnanasakthi	Piano	1
Seth	Harford	Piano	3
Reuben	Hayre	Piano	1
Elijah	Hill	Alto Saxophone	3
Alice	Hobson	Piano	5
Riya	Kanetkar	Singing	3
Sohan	Kodidasu	Piano	4
Jingzhi	Lou	Piano	1
Ata	Ogutuu	Piano	1
Andiya	Qarany	Piano	2
Duwa	Rehman	Piano	1
	Richardson-		
Oscar	Horn	Piano	2
Harrison	Ricketts	Piano	2
Prithiv Jith	Shiva Deep	Piano	6
Stanley	Stuart	Piano	4

Congratulations to all students for passing! Particularly well done to Ata, Stanley, William, Seth, Alice, Noah, Oscar, Reuben, Duwa, Isobel, Elijah and Prithiv who passed with merit. Also, a big shout out to Jingzhi, Sai, Andiya, Naomi, Sohan and Harrison who passed with distinction!



... MUSIC NEWS ... MUSIC NEWS ...



Royal Northern College of Music String Workshop – A Fantastic Success

Earlier this term, six of our string players had the exciting opportunity to take part in a String Workshop led by tutors from the Royal Northern College of Music. Hosted at Crompton House School in Oldham, the workshop proved to be an inspiring and rewarding musical experience for everyone involved.

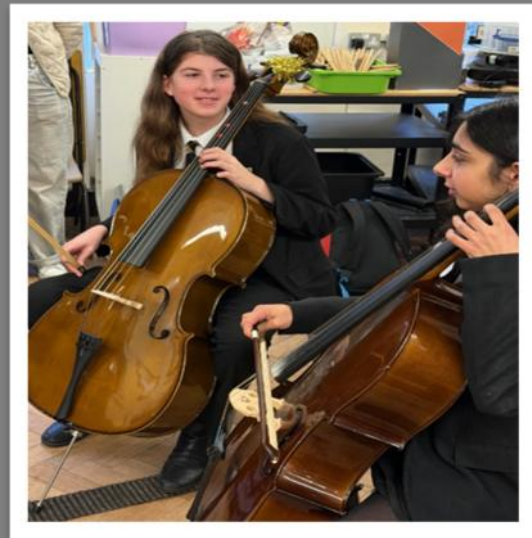
Students worked with specialist musicians from one of the UK's leading conservatoires, developing their ensemble playing, performance confidence and musical understanding.

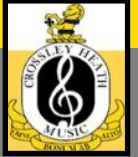
Throughout the workshop, pupils rehearsed together, explored new repertoire and received expert guidance from professional tutors, allowing them to refine their technique and experience what it is like to work at a higher level of musical performance.

Our students represented the department brilliantly, demonstrating enthusiasm, commitment and a real passion for music. The morning culminated in a performance that showcased the progress made during the workshop and highlighted the high standard of our young musicians.

The visit was a huge success and we are delighted that it has opened up the possibility of future collaboration with Crompton House School. We hope this will be the beginning of a developing musical partnership that will create further opportunities for our students to perform, collaborate and grow as musicians.

Well done to Aimen, Pragya, Harry, Eliza, Eira and Eleanor who took part and made the day such a memorable experience.





Piano Festival 2026

Following the success of our Annual Piano Festival in the autumn term, we decided to reposition the event in the school calendar and host it again in January. Once again, the festival proved to be a wonderful celebration of piano music and the many talented musicians within our school community.

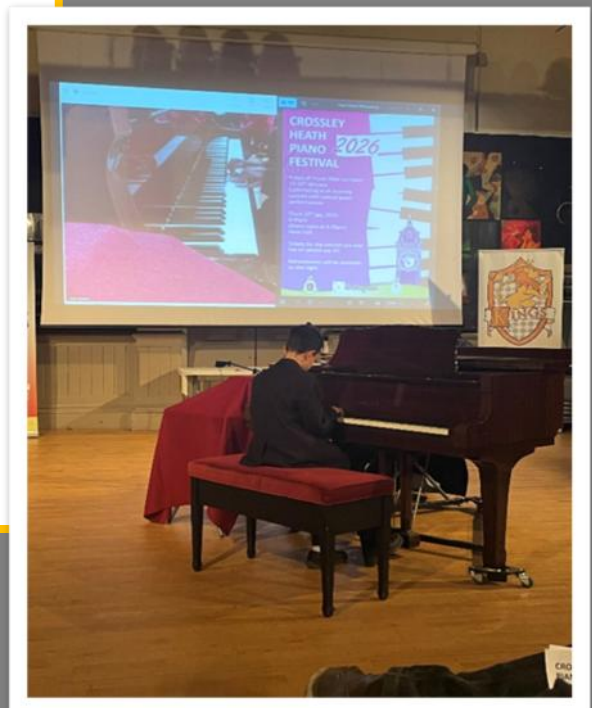
During the week, the corridors were filled with the sound of piano music as students performed informally during break and lunchtime. These performances created a vibrant musical atmosphere around the school, with a wide variety of styles being heard – from classical favourites by composers such as Chopin and Beethoven to more contemporary pieces enjoyed by students and staff alike.

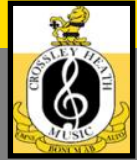
The festival culminated in an evening concert that showcased the impressive talent and dedication of our pianists. The programme featured a rich and varied selection of music and was warmly received by the audience of families, friends and staff who came along to support our performers.

We were also delighted to welcome back former student **Thomas Backhouse** as our guest performer for the evening. Thomas, who now works as a peripatetic music teacher, returned to the school to share his musical talents and it was wonderful for our students to see a former pupil continuing to pursue music as part of his career. The students who performed in the concert were:

- Prithiv Jith Shiva-Deep
- Tejas Mohan
- Thomas Elliott
- Phoebe Jones
- Ajay Stephenson
- David Nimmo
- Sophie Moorhouse
- Lilly Stead
- Mei Tat
- Daphne Bullock
- Raphael Aghahowa
- Leo Tat
- Joe Fitzsimmons
- Vanessa Pukl

The evening was a fantastic showcase of the commitment, skill and musical creativity of our students. We are incredibly proud of all those who took part and helped make the festival such a memorable event, and we look forward to seeing the Piano Festival continue to grow in the years to come.





Rossendale Valley Sounds Collaboration

We were delighted to once again welcome the **Rossendale Valley Sounds Community Wind Band** into school for another fantastic day of music-making. This year's event was bigger than ever, with a significantly larger group of our student musicians taking part and performing alongside the experienced community players.

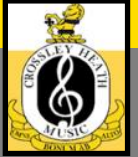
The collaboration provided a wonderful opportunity for our students to rehearse and perform with musicians from outside the school, gaining valuable ensemble experience and enjoying the energy that comes from playing in a large band.

The combined group produced a full and vibrant sound that made the rehearsals and performances both exciting and inspiring for everyone involved. A highlight of the day was a special concert performed for the entire **Year 7 cohort**. For many of our younger students, this was their first opportunity to experience a live wind band performance in school. The concert not only entertained but also introduced them to the wide range of instruments that make up a wind band.

The event also gave us a valuable opportunity to showcase some of the instruments that we are particularly keen to recruit for, including those that are currently in short supply within the department. Students were encouraged to consider taking up one of these instruments, with the added incentive of **reduced-price lessons** and the chance to join the school band.

Events like this are incredibly important for building enthusiasm for music across the school, and it was wonderful to see so many students inspired by the performance. We are very grateful to the members of Rossendale Valley Sounds for continuing to support our young musicians and look forward to further collaborations in the future.





DRAMA CLUB

TUESDAY
12.20-13.10

B5





Lunch is allowed
Develop your skills!
Spark your
creativity!



(With the one and only TOBY CHURCHILL!)

Student-Led Performing Arts Clubs



As part of their roles as **Performing Arts Student Leaders**, Toby Churchill and Lilly Stead have taken the initiative to launch two exciting new student-led extra-curricular groups within the department.

Toby Churchill has introduced a **KS3 Drama Club**, providing students with a space to explore acting, improvisation and performance skills in a supportive and creative environment. The club offers students the opportunity to build confidence, develop stage presence and work collaboratively on dramatic activities.

Alongside this, **Lilly Stead** has established a **KS3 Dance Club**, giving students the chance to learn new choreography, develop their technique and express themselves through movement. The group is open to students of all abilities and aims to create an enjoyable and inclusive environment for anyone interested in dance.

These clubs are a fantastic example of student leadership in action, with Toby and Lilly helping to create new opportunities for younger students to get involved in the performing arts. We are incredibly proud of their initiative and look forward to seeing these groups continue to grow.

KS3 DANCE CLUB





OLD GIRLS GYM
EVERY MONDAY
12:30-13:00

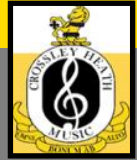
Bring PE kit to change into and
a packed lunch to eat
beforehand.

Open to all students between
year 7 and 9 dance experience
or not!

Come along to have fun, meet
new people and keep fit!



... MUSIC NEWS ... MUSIC NEWS ...



Class of '26 Showcase

Our Year 11 GCSE musicians recently took to the stage to celebrate their musical achievements in the **Class of '26 Performance Showcase**. The event provided a wonderful opportunity for students to present their GCSE performance work to an appreciative audience and highlight the dedication, creativity and musical skill they have developed during the course.

The concert featured a diverse and engaging programme, with students performing a wide range of styles and repertoire. Vocal performances included **Elodee Walker Watene, Pragma Surabhi, Amber Mitchell, Sophia Johnson** and **Eira Watson**, who each delivered confident and expressive performances

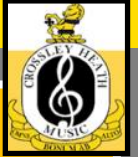
Instrumental performances also formed a key part of the evening. **Vanessa Pukl** performed a demanding piano étude, while **Grace Hobson** and **Ben Cooper** showcased their talents on alto saxophone. The audience also enjoyed a moving vocal duet from **Pragma Surabhi and Sophia Johnson**, as well as a beautiful instrumental performance of *Kiki's Delivery Service* by **Pragma Surabhi (violin)** accompanied by **Vanessa Pukl (piano)**.

The evening was a fantastic celebration of the hard work and commitment shown by the Class of '26 musicians. Each performer demonstrated confidence, musicality and a clear passion for their craft, making the concert an enjoyable and memorable occasion for everyone in attendance.

Well done to all the students who performed and helped make the **Class of '26 Showcase** such a success.



... MUSIC NEWS ... MUSIC NEWS ...



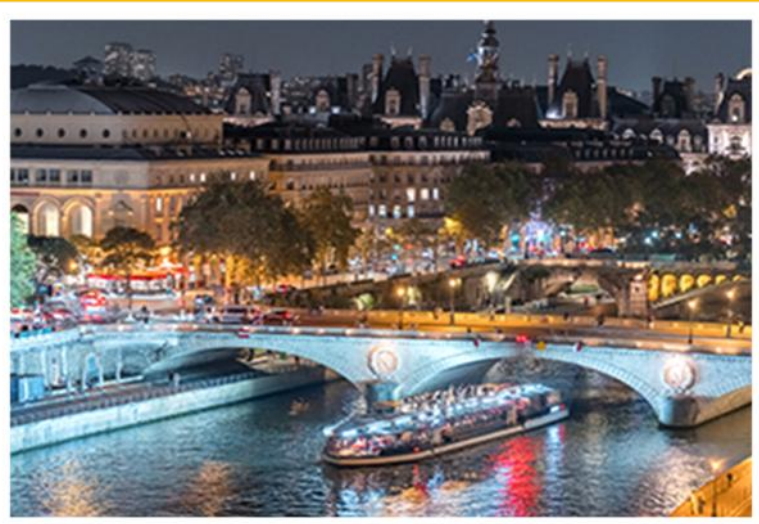
Paris Concert Tour – Easter 2026

During the Easter holidays, a group of our talented musicians will be heading to **Paris** for an exciting **Music Department Concert Tour**. The trip promises to be a fantastic opportunity for students to perform, experience music in an international setting and enjoy some of the cultural highlights of the city.

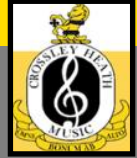
Over the four-day tour, students will take part in a number of **concert performances**, giving them the chance to share their music with new audiences in unique venues. These include a concert at the **American Church in Paris** and another performance at **Villa Beausoleil**, a senior residence near the city. These performances will provide valuable real-world experience for our musicians, as well as an opportunity to represent the school abroad.

Alongside the musical activities, the itinerary includes a number of exciting experiences. Students will enjoy a **Bateaux Mouches river cruise along the Seine**, as well as a full day at **Disneyland Paris**, making the trip both musically rewarding and a memorable cultural experience.

We would also like to say a huge **thank you to everyone who supported our recent bake sale**, which raised an impressive **£307.20**. This money has gone towards providing **souvenir hoodies for all students on the tour**, featuring the **“Paris Music Tour 2026”** logo and names on the back, giving students a lasting memento of the trip. Trips like this provide invaluable musical and personal experiences for our students, and we are very much looking forward to an exciting and memorable tour.



... MUSIC NEWS ... MUSIC NEWS ...



Music for Youth Regional Festival – Huddersfield

On **Saturday 14th March**, 56 of our students travelled to Colne Valley School in Huddersfield to take part in the **Music for Youth Regional Festival**, performing as **The Crossley Heath Band and Choir**. The festival celebrates young musicians from across the region and provides an exciting platform for school ensembles to share their work and receive professional feedback.

Our ensemble delivered a vibrant and varied programme that showcased the breadth of talent within the department. The performance opened with the iconic **Simpsons Theme**, immediately energising the audience and giving our **auxiliary percussionists** the opportunity to shine. Their use of sirens, whistles and orchestral whip sound effects added colour and humour to the piece, creating a lively and engaging start to the set.

The mood then shifted to the dramatic **Duel of the Fates** from *Star Wars*. This powerful performance combined the full sound of the band with the choir's atmospheric chanting, creating a truly epic moment in the programme. The driving **timpani** and strong choral lines captured the intensity of the music and made for a particularly striking performance.

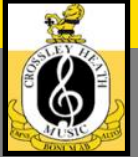
The concert concluded with a beautifully arranged version of **Can You Feel the Love Tonight**, performed by both band and choir. The verses were sung by our soloists **Pragya Surabhi** and **Neve Murphy**, whose confident and expressive performances were a highlight of the set.

We were delighted to receive **extremely positive feedback from the festival adjudicators**, who praised both the musicality of the group and the ambition of the programme. With **56 students involved**, we were also proud to be **the largest ensemble performing in our session**, something that reflected the strong musical community within the school.

We are now eagerly awaiting the results to find out whether we have been selected to progress to the **Music for Youth National Festival in Birmingham this July**. Whatever the outcome, the day was a fantastic experience for our students and a wonderful showcase of their dedication, teamwork and musical talent.



... MUSIC NEWS ... MUSIC NEWS ...



Boys Sing! 2026

This year a group of our students once again took part in the **Boys Sing!** event at **Hallé St Peter's in Manchester**. The afternoon workshop is designed specifically to support and inspire young male singers, encouraging them to develop their vocal skills and confidence in a supportive and engaging environment.

The session was led by **Hallé Youth Choir Director Stuart Overington** and **Hallé Youth Choir Assistant Director and Hallé Youth Training Choir Director Matthew Roughley**, who guided the singers through a range of vocal exercises and repertoire. Throughout the afternoon, the boys explored vocal technique, listening skills and ensemble singing, while also learning about the unique qualities of the changing male voice.

The repertoire for the session included a vocal arrangement of **"Memories" by Maroon 5**, alongside the more traditional folk song **"Wayfaring Stranger."** These contrasting pieces allowed the singers to explore different musical styles while developing their blend, tone and ensemble awareness.

The atmosphere was energetic and encouraging, allowing the boys to experiment with their voices and enjoy singing as part of a much larger group of young musicians from schools across the region.

This year we took **nine of our students** to the event, and they all had a thoroughly enjoyable and rewarding experience. Opportunities like this play an important role in helping young singers develop their confidence and musical understanding, while also encouraging them to continue singing as they move through their teenage years.

The students returned inspired and enthusiastic, having enjoyed the chance to sing alongside other young vocalists and learn from experienced choir leaders in such an impressive musical setting.



Music in Assemblies

It has been wonderful to see students performing in house assemblies over the course of this year and this is something that we would now like to happen in all assemblies if possible. If any student would like to perform (this can be instrumental or vocal) please fill in the form using either the link or the QR code below...

Assembly Performances!



[Assembly Performances! – Fill in](#)

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

Sixth Form Netball Impress in Competitive League Campaign

Crossley Heath's Sixth Form netball team enjoyed an impressive and competitive 2025-26 season, finishing level on points with the top teams in a closely contested AoC West Yorkshire league.



Facing strong opposition from Thomas Rotherham College, Huddersfield New College, Wyke Sixth Form College, John Leggott College and New College Pontefract, the team secured 5 wins from 9 matches, scoring over 200 goals across the campaign. Their final tally of 15 points matched the league's top two sides, underlining their ability to compete consistently at a high level.

After a steady start to the season, performances improved significantly as the team developed greater cohesion and confidence. A number of matches highlighted their resilience, with the squad showing the ability to recover from difficult periods and maintain composure in tight games.

A special mention must go to our Year 13 students Olivia, Hollie, Aliza, Maryam and Emily – who played their final matches for the school this season. Their commitment and contribution to the team have been invaluable, and we hope they continue to maintain their involvement in netball and sport more broadly as they move on to the next stage of their journey.

Overall, this has been a season of real progress, with the team establishing themselves as strong competitors within the league. With this momentum, Sixth Form netball at Crossley Heath is well placed to continue building towards even greater success next year.

Crossley Heath's Year 7 girls football team demonstrated resilience and team spirit during a challenging afternoon of fixtures, gaining valuable experience in their first ever 11-a-side tournament.

Year 7 Girls' Football

Facing strong opposition, the team narrowly lost 1-0 to Ryburn, were edged out 3-2 by Todmorden, and fell 2-0 to Brooksbank. Despite the results, the scorelines did not reflect the quality and effort shown throughout, with the girls often unlucky not to come away with more.

Adapting to the demands of a larger pitch and the step up to 11-a-side football, the team showed impressive determination, working tirelessly for one another and improving with each match.

Goals were scored by Amina and Gurchandeep, with Amina also earning Player of the Match for her relentless attacking runs, high work rate, and well-taken finish.

Most importantly, the squad played with excellent team spirit, supporting each other throughout and continuing to battle in every game.



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

Crossley Heath Athletes Excel at West Yorkshire Cross Country

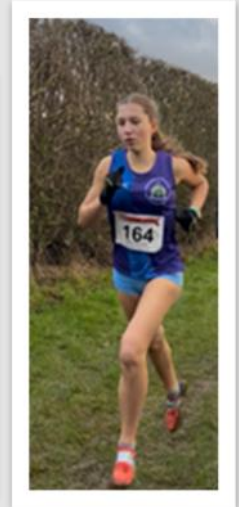
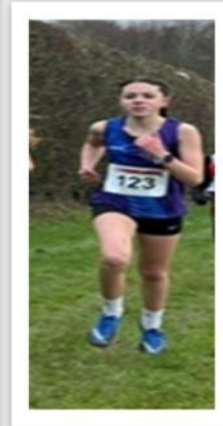
On one of the finer days in January, Crossley Heath School took a strong team of runners from Year 7 through to Year 13 to represent Calderdale at the West Yorkshire Cross Country Championships.

The course proved a challenging test, featuring undulating terrain with fast downhill stretches and demanding uphill sections. Despite this, our students competed with determination, resilience, and outstanding effort throughout.

A standout performance came from Ruby, who finished an impressive 9th place, securing qualification for the national championships. In the junior girls' event, the Calderdale team achieved a fantastic 2nd place overall. Rafael and Jack represented the junior boys, contributing to a strong team performance that saw Calderdale finish 3rd overall.

In the older age groups, Chloe competed in the senior girls' race, while Oscar represented Calderdale in the intermediate boys' category. Harriet and Tara ran superbly in the intermediate girls' race, helping the Calderdale team secure an excellent 1st place finish.

All students represented both the school and Calderdale showing great courage and determination on a demanding course.



A Level PE Students Experience Elite Sport Science at Leeds Beckett

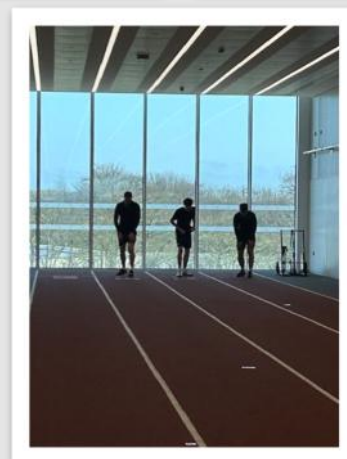
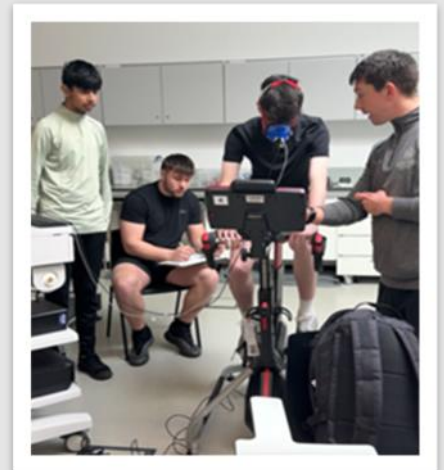
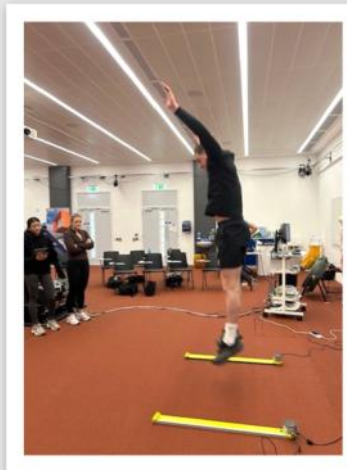
Our A Level PE students enjoyed a fantastic and inspiring day exploring the world-class Sports Science facilities at Leeds Beckett University.

The visit began with a guided tour of the university's specialist laboratories, offering students a valuable insight into how sport science supports performance at the elite level.

Students then took part in an engaging Exercise Physiology and Nutrition workshop, where they carried out practical testing to explore energy systems and the fuels used during exercise. This hands-on experience helped bring key areas of the course to life.

In the afternoon, students participated in a Biomechanics and Sports Technology workshop, consolidating their understanding of theoretical concepts and seeing how these are applied in real sporting environments.

Overall, it was an insightful and motivating day that truly brought sport science to life.



Term Dates

2026 Summer Term

Inset Day (School closed to students): Monday 13 April

Re-open: Tuesday 14 April

Close (May Day): Monday 4 May

Closes Half Term: Friday 22 May

Re-open: Monday 1 June

Inset Day (School closed to students): Friday 26 June

April / May

14 April	School re-opens		
14	Y10 midcourse exams (roll partially into following week)	14	Parents'/Carers' Evening (DEF)
14	Internal PE moderation	15	Y11 Study Period commences
15	External PE moderation	18	Y8 exams
16	Y7 Parents'/Carers' Evening (ABC) Schoolcloud	18	Y11 Food & Nutrition Assessed Practical
20	Y12 midcourse exams (roll partially into following week)	18	Y10 Geography Trip
21 & 22	Y11 Art exam (10 hours)	22	Y13 Study period commences
21	Parent Forum Meeting	22	Closes Half Term
22	Y7 Parents'/Carers' Evening (DEF) Schoolcloud	1	School re-opens
24	Y7 Netball Trip after school		
24	Y8 Rugby Trip Parents' Information Evening		
27	Y10 Work Experience week		
27	Y11 MFL Orals this week		
29	Maths Challenge		
4 MAY	MAY DAY school closed		
5	Y8 Parents'/Carers' Evening (ABC) Schoolcloud		
5-7	Y13 Art exam (15 hours)		
6	CHPTA Meeting 7.00pm		
7	Y12 Trip to Oxford		
7	Student Leadership Group Meeting		
7	Y9 DTP/MEN vaccinations		
7	Senior Sports Presentation Evening		
8	Y13 MFL Orals		
8	CHPTA Quiz Night		
12 & 13	Y12 Driver Safety Workshops		
13	Music Ensembles Showcase		
14	Y9 DTP/MEN Vaccinations		

