



# Dispatches

## The Crossley Heath School News

### January 2018

IN THIS ISSUE



## A Word from the Head

and have been emphasising our commitment to our RESPECT guidelines which have been shared in assemblies and form time this half term.

It's been a busy start to 2018 for Crossley Heath staff and students. Our Y11 and Y13s have undergone mock exams in preparation for the summer. We trialled a mock exam results day for Y11 for the first time which was a really useful experience and will help prepare for the real thing (see page 7).

Our PSCE day and Health Fair for Y9 students was a great opportunity to get across important health and wellbeing messages from lots of agencies and emphasise to students the importance of making healthy lifestyle choices.

We have also been looking at our values, standards and expectations

There has been reason to celebrate our success in the recent secondary school league tables, published by the Department of Education. The new-look tables see schools ranked on 'Progress 8', and 'Attainment 8', which looks at the achievement of pupils in their best eight subjects, including English and Maths. Crossley Heath had the best Attainment 8 score out of all the schools in Calderdale with 69.5, well above the 48.2 national average.

Our roofing project is going well despite the inclement weather since Christmas. I think we are all looking forward to lighter mornings after half term and hopefully the first signs of spring!

*Lynnette Cassidy*



### Tate Liverpool Page 2

Y10 art students headed to the landmark gallery for their studies this term



### Quizzley Cup Page 8

Proud winners pictured at this year's CHA fundraising Quiz



### Karate Champion Page 4

Y9 Student Hannah had an amazing day at the National Finals in January



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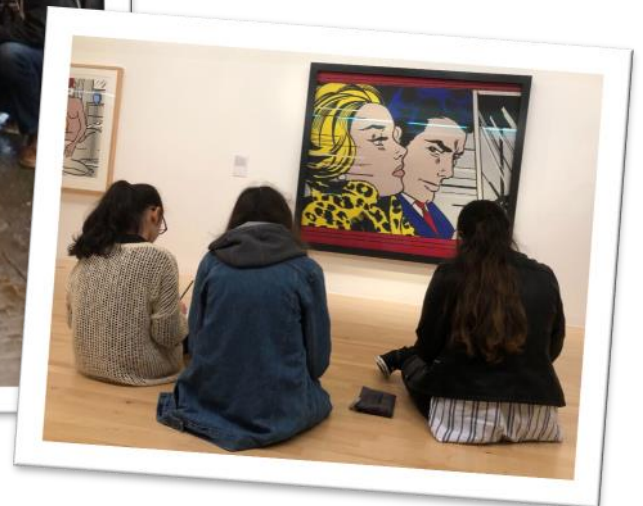


# Tate Gallery Liverpool

It has become customary for all our Y10 students who study one of our Visual Arts in Fine Art, Photography, Graphic Communication or Textile Design courses to have the opportunity to spend the day at the Tate Gallery in Liverpool and this year was no exception.

On Thursday 18 January, 54 students along with 4 members of staff spent the day in the gallery looking at the work on show and completing a series of drawing and analysis tasks set by the Visual Arts department.

It was, once again, a thoroughly enjoyable event with students producing valuable work to contribute towards their GCSE coursework.



## We Value Your Feedback!

It's important for the school to gather feedback in order for us to know what's working well and to consider where we might need to make changes.

### Parents Evening Questionnaires

One of the ways we will be seeking your feedback on a regular basis is at Parents' Evenings. Please take time to complete the questionnaires given to you as you arrive and leave them in the box as you leave.

At the Y10 Parents' Evening recently it was encouraging to know that 96% of parents feel that the school has kept their child safe and 94% of parents are happy overall with their child's experience at school. Feedback relating to high levels of homework and Sixth Form provision are noted.

## German Student Seeks Host Family

We have had a plea from the Halifax-Aachen society with whom we have worked in the past to foster links with Germany.

They have contacted us because they have had a request from a 14 year old boy in Aachen who wants to come to Halifax and they are asking whether there would be any possibility of anyone at Crossley Heath hosting him for a week or so.

If there are any families of students in Y9 or Y10 who would be willing to host a 14 year old German boy for a week during term time – exact dates to be confirmed - please contact [j.brownlie@crossleyheath.org.uk](mailto:j.brownlie@crossleyheath.org.uk).

# U16 Set for Yorkshire Final

The U16s travelled across to Hull Collegiate School, a side we had never played before, for the semi final of the Yorkshire Schools Under 16s in January.

There were excellent performances all round, particularly from Jacob Pollard, Alfie Pollard, Tom Georgiou, Oliver Cash and Finn Greenwood.

We look forward to meeting our opponents in the final on 3 March.



## Confident 24-12 win

The team performed admirably against strong running opposition, surviving an early period of pressure before taking control of the game and running out 24-12 winners.

# Cross Country Winners



- 5 first place spots
- 13 athletes through to West Yorkshire championships
- 6 athletes through to National finals



The annual Calderdale Cross Country Championships took place on Savile Park in January with an excellent turn out. Despite the slippery conditions, our runners ran some great performances with several finishing in the top 12 in their races and qualifying to represent Calderdale in the West Yorkshire Championships.

- Y7 boys:** James Duffy 1st, Owen Lodge 4th, Mason Kelly 6th, Christian Cullerton 7th, Ben Scholey 37th, Jack Law 46th
- Y7 girls:** Evelyn Dagger 5th, Cody Harrison 9th, Grace Redfern 13th, Harriet Hankinson 22nd, Lucy Gregg 26th, Cassiopeia Bentley 32nd, Sara Olbert 38th
- Y8/9 boys:** Danny Baxter 1st, Jamie Pridgeon 5th, Henry Henderson 15th, Harris Bond 21st, Elijah Peers-Webb 27th, Harry Nattress 28th, Campbell Benson

- 47th, Dom Harris 53rd,
- Y8/9 girls:** Isabel Richardson 1st, Iris Palmer 3rd, Verity Clements 5th, Olive Davison 8th, Evelyn Dale 25th, Breeya Holman 32nd, Ellis Milner 33rd, Tegan Hamilton Adams 37th, Niamh Kerrigan 43rd, Fatima Sadiq 44th
- Y10/11 boys:** Max Burgin 1st, Harry Johnson 3rd
- Y10/11 girls:** Isabel Castelow 1st, Lauryn Gregg 3rd, Anna Mathew 5th

The West Yorkshire Championships were held at Leeds Grammar School on another wet and windy day and we had 13 athletes representing the school and Calderdale. Amidst tough competition and racing against the best runners in West Yorkshire our athletes once again excelled themselves with six qualifying for the Nationals in March - a fantastic achievement.

Congratulations and a big well done to James Duffy, Isabel Richardson, Lauryn Gregg, Max Burgin, Harry Johnson and Isabel Castelow.



# Health Fair Day for Y9

Our Y9 students were treated to a fun and informative PHSE day on the last week of this half-term. They attended a range of workshops from external agencies giving them information and advice about mental health issues, healthy eating and keeping active, plus SRE advice and much more.

Students also attended a Health Fair organised and run by our Y12 students which was full of exciting stalls. Pictures show the students hard at work on bicycles to make their own fresh fruit smoothies and even trying some yoga and fitness testing activities.



*Y9 students get to try fitness tests plus blend their own fresh fruit smoothies using peddle power!*

# Extra-Curricular Clubs

## Disaster Movies Mondays

This year saw a brand new lunchtime club exploding in to Mondays. Mr Spencer and pupils from Years 7, 8 and 9 have been exploring the inaccuracies of Hollywood and trying to sort fact from fiction in a range of disaster movies. So far we have discovered that there are some truths behind films such as San Andreas, for example that lava can be diverted and that tilt monitors can indicate if a volcano is about to erupt.

However Hollywood has taken many liberties with science in other films and we have had to deduce that a tsunami is very unlikely to occur in LA and a human being is unlikely to survive inside a tornado. We are currently working our way through "Into the Storm" a tale of storm chasers in the USA attempting to monitor the inside of a tornado. Next term we will really push the boundaries of reality with "2012" and are hoping to produce a series of Disaster Survival Guides based on our findings

Everyone is welcome to join - just come along to A2 on Monday lunchtime.

## Science Journal Club

In the latest meeting of the Science Journal Club, a group of students and staff gathered to listen to an interesting range of presentations by enthusiastic sixth form science students. We heard about how 3D printing has been used to make bone grafts; how the company who produce Marmite conducted a genetic study and discovered that a difference in a single base pair in your DNA can determine whether you like the spread or not; how one student was involved in a huge Citizen Science research project about sleep; the mystery of wave/particle duality; and the toxic threat of dimethyl mercury in the environment, and its effect on the nervous system. Many interesting questions were asked by the audience, and the traditional donuts were enjoyed by all! Look out for details of the next event in March.

# Hannah is National Champion!

Congratulations to Y9 student Hannah Ashworth who took first place in her age group at the National Karate Championships in Leicester in January to become English Kata Champion, 14-15 category. Hannah trains four times a week at Halifax Karate club where she has been training for the past six years.



# Charity News

Thanks to everyone who contributed to our recent non-uniform day in January! We raised a sizeable £890.28 to be split between 2 charities - The British Heart Foundation and Linden Brook respite care who provide short breaks provision for local children with disabilities.

In the half term holidays, eight of our form charity reps will be representing the school by volunteering at a Rotary event at the Maurice Jagger Centre in Halifax. Elderly members of the community are provided with dinner and an evening's entertainment and our students will be helping by waiting on tables and taking care of the guests.

Please ensure that you check ParentPay regularly for new trips, resources etc., which require paying for. Please also ensure that there are sufficient funds on student accounts to enable them to have lunch on their return after half term. Also please check for instalments due on various trips.

Remember there is a facility for an alert from ParentPay to advise you of a low balance on catering. To set this, click on 'Communication' on the top bar on your home page, then click on the blue box 'Change alert settings' and follow the instructions.

# From the Finance Department

# Safeguarding

A reminder please that students should not use the main school gates by the Lodge to enter or exit the school premises. This is for safety reasons with the driveway being for vehicles and the exit being straight onto the busy main road. If you are collecting your child at the end of the day they should use the exit at the rear of school or to the side where the buses wait.

If students are signing out for appointments etc. they must sign out and be collected from Reception due to safeguarding procedures.

Thank you for your co-operation.

# February Governor Update

## National Recognition for Crossley Heath

It has been a busy term and a half as always! In September governors received a presentation outlining the 2017 results and extended our congratulations to students and staff for another year of fantastic achievement culminating in the excellent news and deserved recognition that Crossley Heath School was ranked fifth best performing state secondary school in the Northern England and the highest Attainment 8 score in Calderdale.

All our main committees have met at least once this term - Full Governing Body, Business, Curriculum, Personnel, Student Welfare and this year we have introduced a new committee – Vision and Strategy.

## New Staff Governor

We were sorry to lose Jonathan Lees as a staff governor but welcomed Vicky Pennington (Planning Manager) to the governing body as

his successor. Thanks go to Jonathan for his contribution to the work of the governing body and his ongoing support with IT.

We also said goodbye to Lynne Sharples (Head's PA), whose organisation and calm approach helped keep the governing body focussed and running smoothly over the years. We are fortunate to have Kerry McDonnell who joined us in January as our new clerk to the governing body.

The governors wish staff and students an enjoyable half term.

**Frances Millington**  
Chair of the Governing Body.



*Governors were hugely impressed by the standard of catering put on for them in their recent Governor Training Day in school.*

*Our creative Y10 Food technology students (pictured above) had devised a varied menu to showcase different skills including bruschetta, coronation chicken, stuffed cherry tomatoes, pizza pinwheels, quiches, scones and fruit pastries*

**SPORTS HALL ATHLETICS**



Well done to our Y7 and 8 athletes who represented the school in the Calderdale sports hall athletics finals, held at the North Bridge Leisure Centre. Nine schools took part from across Calderdale and once again we got two of our teams into a podium position with the Y7 girls and boys winning overall, the Y8 girls came 5th and the Y8 boys 7th. Following their performances, the Y7 girls and boys have been selected to represent Calderdale in the West Yorkshire Finals on March 13th.

There were some excellent performances in the relay events from all teams, and individually on the track from Billy Duffy and Isabel Richardson.

Well done to all who competed and good luck to the teams in the next round.

**BASKETBALL**

Our U16 basketball team have won the Calderdale competition and now qualify for the West Yorkshire Youth Games. Well done to our players:



Anna Nevison Y9, Olufemi Bright Y10, David Maduwekwi Y10, Jared Mason Y11, Ossayamen Iyekekpolor Y11, Ben Adeniji Y11 Jamie McCormick Y11

**INDOOR HOCKEY**

January saw Crossley Heath enter all of the Calderdale Indoor Tournaments, across all age groups. Firstly the U12 tournament took place before Christmas as the A team finished runners up, however had a few decisions gone our way the girls would have finished on top.



Secondly, after a good few weeks off the U13s were ready to go, although they were not as successful as the U12 team they won one, drew one and lost two games. A huge credit to the Y7s who stepped up a year, especially to Olivia Conway who performed outstandingly considering it was her first time ever playing in goal.



A week later it was the U14s, playing at the new facilities of North Halifax. The girls finished joint second, narrowly missing out on goal difference. The team lead by Tegan Hamilton-Adams battled extremely well

and only lost to the tournament winners Rishworth in the last minute of the game. Isobel Oldroyd displayed creativity in the midfield whilst Charlotte Margetson consistently put pressure on the opposition's forward line.

The U15s were to follow, and with a mixture of Y9 and 10, the team went on to win their tournament, beating Hipperholme who have been undefeated all season. Fantastic performances and goals came from Robin Casey, Lauryn Gregg and Caitlin Dyson who have all been working hard at training over the last few months.

Finally the U19 tournament took place, although the team consisted of all U16 players, the girls improved with every game that they played! Well done to everyone who has taken part.



**INDIVIDUAL SUCCESS**

On Saturday the 28th of January, Verity Clements had an early start to travel to Barnard Castle in Durham to compete in The Zetland Triathlon. She was representing Ryburn Valley Pony Club in a competitive field of 37 athletes.

On a hilly, windy and muddy course, she ran 1500m in 6m 6 secs. The pellet shoot was from a distance of 7m with a turning target and Verity scored 880 out of 1000. She swam a distance of 220 metres in the timed 3 minutes swim, a personal best.

Well done to Verity who came individual second meaning she qualifies for the National Competition in March at Milton Keynes.

# Manchester University Laboratory Open Day

It's a tricky and often emotive subject matter but a group of our 6th Form Biology students were glad they took the opportunity to spend the day looking at the medical and research facilities at Manchester University and examining just how animal research is conducted and monitored in the 21st century.

Many of our students are vegetarian or vegan and a few went along with preconceived ideas about what they

might find. All have since said how positive an experience it was and how high the welfare standards were that they saw across the University.

Several hundred A level students from across the country were invited to the open day and got to witness first hand some of the medical research that was taking place into life saving cancer treatments and drugs to treat debilitating conditions. No testing is done for cosmetic purposes.

Y12 student Fizah spoke eloquently about her concerns before the day, but said she would definitely recommend other students go and see for themselves and

keep an open mind.

"I was reassured by the rigorous standards we saw. Regulations and inspections are really strict and it was a really useful day for anyone who might be considering careers in biological sciences, medicine or pharmacology".



## Y11 Mock Exam Results Session

On Friday 2nd February, our Y11 students experienced a trial run of their GCSE results day in the 6th form centre.

Having had ten days of exams and study leave during January, the students received a pleasing set of mock examination results with a session replicating their forthcoming results day in the summer.


The students then spent time with their form tutors and members of the Senior Leadership Team reflecting on their results and using the exam experience in a positive way, setting their sights on the summer exams with renewed vigour.

We have been very pleased with our mature and sensible Y11 students throughout the whole examination period. They deserved their successes and we look forward to a similarly successful day in the summer.

## RESPECT

This term students have been introduced in assemblies and form tutor time to our amended "Respect" agenda.

<b>R</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	We are fully responsible for our own actions and words.
<b>E</b>	<b>Environment</b>	Our school is a special place to learn; we must look after it.
<b>S</b>	<b>Safety</b>	We should feel free from all forms of intolerance.
<b>P</b>	<b>Positivity</b>	We should develop a growth mindset and embrace new challenges and opportunities.
<b>E</b>	<b>Excellence</b>	The school has high standards and expectations for conduct, learning and appearance.
<b>C</b>	<b>Co-operation</b>	Teamwork is a foundation of success; we work together for individual success.
<b>T</b>	<b>Trust</b>	We trust others with our well-being, safety and privacy.

**Crossley Heath  Community**

Respect sets out the foundations of how the Crossley Heath community should behave and interact to further develop purposeful and successful behaviour and relationships in and around school. The foundations are Responsibility, Environment, Safety, Positivity, Excellence, Co-operation and Trust and are set out in posters around school.

We ask parents and carers to support our continued efforts to make Crossley Heath a school with high standards and expectations in which all staff and students are proud to belong.

## Exam Invigilators Required

We are looking to expand our pool of casual exam invigilators for this summer. If you are methodical, patient, with good attention to detail and would enjoy ensuring our students get the best support during this critical part of their education, please email our Planning Manager [vicky.pennington@crossleyheath.org.uk](mailto:vicky.pennington@crossleyheath.org.uk) in the first instance.

We offer £8.19 per hour and our invigilators work flexibly as part of a cohesive team to staff the exams which run from Monday 14th May to Friday 25th June. Most invigilators work a few different sessions per week during this time, depending on the numbers of students in each exam.



# Term Dates

Closes for half term: Fri 16 February  
Re-opens: Mon 26 February

Closes for Easter: Thu 29 March  
Re-opens: Mon 16 April

May day: Mon 7 May

Closes for Spring Bank: Fri 25 May



# Crossley Heath Association News

We'd like to say a big thank you to all our school families and friends for your fantastic support of your PTA (the Crossley Heath Association) this half-term!

Our Family Quiz night was another sell-out event with fun for nearly 150 people, organised with thanks to a wonderful team of volunteers. The "Best Team Name" prize was awarded to The Headless Mannequins and The Quizzley Heath Cup was awarded to "Desperately Seeking Answers" - the team with the highest score on the night pictured below. Thanks to your support (including employee match giving) we raised around £1,600 for our pupils!



Next half-term sees the return of our very successful Easter Hamper Raffle. During the run up to the Easter holiday, every form will be creating their own uniquely themed hamper. Each student will then receive a raffle book to sell tickets to friends, neighbours and relatives. The draw for the amazing selection of hampers will take place on Monday 26th March and the winners will be announced on our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/TheCrossleyHeathAssociation/>.

Last year, the Easter Hampers raffles raised £1044.00. Mrs Cassidy has kindly agreed to give the form who sell the most tickets a fast track lunch pass. There will also be prizes for the student who sells the most tickets in each year group as well as for the highest selling form per year group.

Thank you again and have a great half-term break!

CHA Committee

Registered Charity Number 1043362

Email: [cha@crossleyheath.org.uk](mailto:cha@crossleyheath.org.uk)

# 2018 Calendar



- 26 School re-opens
- 27 Y11 Parents Evening - Y9 Vaccinations
- 28 Y11 History trip to Hardwick Hall
- 1 Mar Y11 Science Live Trip
- 5 Y12 Work Experience Week
- 6 Y8 Careers Day
- 7 CHA Meeting 7.00pm
- 8 Y8 A-B-C Parents Evening
- 13 Y8 Geography Day Trip  
Duke of Edinburgh celebration evening
- 14 Y8 D-E-F Parents Evening
- 16 German Exchange to 23 March
- 20 Parent Focus Group meeting 6.00pm
- 21 Y8 Options deadline
- 23 Red Nose Day non-uniform
- 27 Y9 Parents Evening - Y9 Vaccinations
- 28 CHA Meeting 7.00pm
- 29 School closes for Easter

# CHA 400 Club

Well done to our 400 club winners!

January - 1st Tara Melling, 2nd Lizzi Brandon, 3rd Taran Thiyagesh

February - 1st Finn Greenwood, 2nd Georgia Davies 3rd Madison Akroyd-Helliwell

The 400 Club is an easy way to support our pupils with a monthly chance to win prize money of £125, £50 and £25 for only £15 per year on ParentPay. We are always hoping we can get a full 400 members this year! Thank you all for your support.



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