

Dispatches

The Crossley Heath School News

July 2022

A Word from the Head



flags and henna designs!) and nurtures inclusivity in every act".

We are immensely proud this term to have received the Carnegie Bronze Award for student mental health and wellbeing. This has

Here we are, once again, at the end of a tremendously busy and exciting year at Crossley Heath.

The very best thing for me has been seeing our students' enthusiasm for taking part in House activities, clubs, visits and events. The school has been truly brought back to life.

Highlights for me this term included our fantastic Diversity Day. We love being an extremely diverse school and celebrating all of our young people. The range of colours and styles of cultural dress was amazing, and the music and stalls on the arena created a lovely festival atmosphere. The sun even rocked up!

This comment from a visitor summed up our ethos and our wonderful students:

"It was a pleasure to experience your students' delight from the activities organised and witness how they embraced the ethos without hesitation.

What an incredible showcase of how your school celebrates everyone's differences, gives opportunity for freedom of self expression (some very interesting heritage being illustrated in costumes, face painted

been quite a journey which started in 2018 with a commitment to providing outstanding pastoral and mental health support for students. Provision has been transformed in that time. The award entails a rigorous and forensic assessment, following these years of hard work and dedication by staff. We are delighted to receive the bronze award and to be advised that we are already on the way to achieving the silver standard. Huge thanks and credit to Mr Chesters, Mr Davis and our pastoral and wellbeing team.

I would like to recognise the commitment and dedication of all of our staff who work very hard in the best interests of your children, often quietly and behind the scenes. Your support for them is always greatly appreciated. Of course, our lovely students also enjoy tremendous support from their families and I thank you for working with us and for being behind your child every step of the way.

I wish everybody a fantastic summer and hope you all manage some quality family time together.

Lynette Cassidy

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A festival atmosphere for Crossley Heath students on our first ever celebration event of its kind.



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Our musicians of all ages enjoyed a trip to London to explore and see some shows.



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Round-up of a busy term of fixtures and much sporting success.



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Our first ever “DIVERSITY DAY”



On 30th of June 2022, The Crossley Heath School celebrated a very special day for the school - Diversity Day. Each year group spent one period out of lessons to celebrate different elements of diversity. They enjoyed lots of multicultural activities and even ate multicultural food together. We are privileged to have such a diverse school!

During this time there was an assembly led by officers from West Yorkshire police explaining how common it can be for hate crimes and incidents to happen in West Yorkshire and how we need to spread awareness about the importance of celebrating diversity.

Additionally, they had a stall outside where students could ask further questions if they wanted to find out more, which many students did. We interviewed Jay, a PCSO (police community support officer) for West Yorkshire police based out of Halifax. Jay told us that his role was to engage with people regarding diversity and hate crime and to raise awareness about the harm that prejudice like homophobia can cause.

After this, pupils went outside where they could participate in multiple activities including getting beautiful henna designs, getting LGBTQ+ flags painted onto them, getting a selfie on the selfie stand and a picture by the beautifully made Rainbow Wings, and writing on the graffiti wall.

Susan in Y9 told us that she had really enjoyed the atmosphere of the day with students having fun whilst being made aware of diversity and culture. As well as that, she thought that the cultural dress and non-uniform was brilliant as many students were dressed up in cultural clothes to express themselves.

There was a stall for St Augustine's - a local charity that works with refugees in Halifax. Diversity, equality and inclusion to St Augustine's Centre means that everyone is not just respected for what they can bring to the centre - their qualities, skills and languages - but also celebrated for who they are and where they are from.



During lunch, we had an amazing performance by some students including Naomi Muhoro (8C), Finley Hardy (8C), and Do Sian Siam (8C), which totally blew our minds away. It was amazing! The whole school gathered together, and all the students and staff were singing and dancing along with each other. This really showed how together we are as a community and how if people with diverse backgrounds come together, it can really create hearts full of joy. This was definitely one of the best moments of the day. Just seeing everyone as one big happy family was really an incredible sight to witness.

Students were also entertained by **Testament** - a hip hop artist and producer who has performed on the BBC, MTV and who also holds the Guinness World Record for the largest beatboxing ensemble. He is currently involved in a production for Netflix and is passionate about spreading the importance of diversity and culture in schools. During an interview, Testament rightly said "We need a space to think about important issues and realise that it is someone else's life people are discriminating against, it is not just an idea, it is someone's culture, someone's love or someone's future that people are trying to push down." Testament also agreed that more schools should also have days like this to help celebrate Diversity in our society.

We both agree with Testament and are looking forward to our next Diversity Day. We thoroughly enjoyed going round stalls and seeing what there was to do as well as hearing others' opinions on diversity and culture. We loved the happiness and joy that was spread throughout the day and we think more schools should have days like this to appreciate the diverse community they are in.

Crossley Heath is incredibly lucky to have such a diverse community and we are so fortunate that we have Diversity Day to celebrate all our different cultures in school. Few schools are as lucky to have a special day like this and we feel immensely proud that we can celebrate together.

Samara Ravat and Mariam Tariq (8B)



Y12 UCAS Conference

The whole of Y12 enjoyed a sunny day out at Leeds Beckett University in June when the beautiful campus hosted the long awaited UCAS conference for sixth form students across the county.

Representatives from all the country's major universities were in attendance and students could also sign up to talks on particular degree courses including law, medicine, sports courses, accountancy and finance, languages, engineering and many more.

There were also apprenticeship providers and employers at the exhibition and the students enjoyed the day browsing amongst the stalls. Following on from our day out, the students also took part in a University, Apprenticeship and Careers morning in school this term where all of Y12 completed their UCAS sign ups and had presentations on student finance, how to write excellent personal statements, plus sessions on the modern world of careers and apprenticeships. Y12s have also been having appointments with our in house careers adviser Mrs Karen Duckworth from C&K Careers this term.

Stakeholder & Alumni relationships



A big welcome this term to **Anya Friis** who is Crossley Heath's newly appointed Development and Relationships Lead. Or should that be 'welcome back' as Anya is actually an ex-Crossley Heath student who left after A-levels in 2013.

A big part of Anya's role will be working to create an engaging alumni network, as well as building and maintaining ongoing stakeholder relationships.

We have started to engage with our alumni via LinkedIn and would love to invite all our parents and families who use the platform to join the school's network - <https://www.linkedin.com/company/the-crossley-heath-school/>

We were thrilled to welcome the New York Times bestselling author of 'The School for Good and Evil' series, Soman Chainani, on 4th July.

World famous Soman delivered an entertaining and thought-provoking presentation and book signing for our Y7 students, as well as students in the Readers Leaders Book Club and those who study 'A' Level English.

Soman's book series has sold over three million copies worldwide, been translated into 30 languages and will soon be a major motion picture from Netflix.

You can watch the film trailer for the School for Good and Evil on the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nchh-gezCOI>



Visit from author Soman Chainani



Mandarin student adventures 2022



This year has been another busy one for students on our Mandarin Excellence Programme. This year our first cohort of MEP students sat their examinations with the HSK3 Chinese proficiency test in the autumn and the GCSE this summer. We also welcomed our new cohort of Y7 students onto the programme. They have made a great start and got to show their skills when they attended the Intensive Learning Day hosted by Leeds University alongside other schools. Y10 took part in a 4-day project based on the theme of tourism and culminating in a visit to Sheffield University's East Asian Studies department where students had lectures and got an insight into university life. And Y9 have just finished a two

week 'virtual China' project where they have been engaging in online activities with students and teachers in China to learn more about the culture, people and places. Students enjoyed the virtual visit to China and were successful in producing the winning video in the national competition against other MEP schools. Perhaps this is why our school was selected by our partners at the British Council to feature in a promotional video about the virtual visit - <https://vimeo.com/729606940>

With the MEP now stretching across 5 year groups we were pleased to welcome our new Chinese assistant Miss Zhang to the school in December - 欢迎

Our Year in MedSoc

The sixth form committee of the Crossley Heath Medical Society have enjoyed leading sessions every week since November of this year on everything about medicine, dentistry, allied health & veterinary medicine! We are pleased to have had a full classroom of keen Y10 and Y11 students every Tuesday lunchtime who have loved taking part in discussions and learning about working within these incredible careers.

With the launch of MedSoc, we also started our Instagram account @crossleyheathmedsoc on which we posted regular updates about our weekly sessions. The Instagram account has proven very popular, with the UK's largest Medical Social Enterprise, Medic Mentor featuring us on their own Instagram story! Medic Mentor provides students with fantastic resources and advice so be sure to check out their website.

Throughout the year we have had sessions focused on the key areas of medical ethics (such as the pillars of medical ethics and the idea of capacity and consent), fascinating medical case studies and the concept of problem-based learning, healthcare specialties such as surgery and sessions on how to boost university applications and develop skills like honesty, empathy and teamwork which are key to working in healthcare.

In our last session of the year, we did a Q&A session with the sixth form committee members answering any more queries the students had and helping them decide if a career in healthcare is right for them. There has been hugely positive feedback from all student attendees this year and we are so grateful for everyone who came to take part in our wonderful activities.

After the success of this year's MedSoc, we are planning a handover to a new team of Y12s in the autumn, so if you are currently in Y11 and thinking about studying in healthcare, do consider applying for a role in the committee next year!

Sloka Jami - Medsoc

MiiM Manufacturing Competition



Mr Barber's Y9 Design and Technology students took part in an extra-curricular competition organised by [MiiM - Make it in Manufacturing](#).

Students were given the brief to design a sustainable transport system which involved discussing environmental issues for the use of resources in transportation, including rising costs for energy and fuel and considering whether local journeys can be made via alternative means.

When all our designs were finally submitted, five of our entries received a certificate of commendation and two of these won prizes. Well done to our entrant who came first overall and who was awarded the prize for Best Effort - **Muhammad Zubayr**. Congratulations also

to our second place designer, **William Isaac Barker**.

Students will each get to choose prizes of either an iPad and pencil, Bosch earbuds or £200 of vouchers for Wiggle. A rather pleased Mr Barber will also receive a technical Lego set!

Commendation certificates also go to our other entrants -

James Thirkell

Yuvrani Atwal

Alina Petrie-Shah.

The DT department is looking forward to engaging in more competitions from MiiM and attending their future events.

A visit from the Bank of England

We were extremely fortunate in June to host a visit from Jonathan Grant, the Head of Legal for Central Banking at the Bank of England.

Jonathan has worked in a number of roles at the Bank for over 19 years and currently runs a division of over 30 lawyers providing legal advice covering all the bank's operational areas. He also worked for 5 years in Hong Kong and was an associate at Clifford Chance prior to joining the Bank.

During his visit, Jonathan delivered an informative presentation on routes into law and finance to students in Y10 and our Sixth Form. He then met Y12 students studying Economics and Business students for an in-depth Q & A session.

Jonathan was impressed by the high calibre questions posed by the students during the session and he was able to provide a rare insight into how the Bank views the current issues relating to the

cost of living crisis and the long-term view they need to take when considering how to manage the situation.

The talking points also branched out into risks associated with cryptocurrencies and whether the Bank of England had done enough to restore consumer confidence after the Financial Crisis of 2008.

We are grateful that Jonathan was able to visit our school and we are keen to explore potential opportunities to work with their new regional offices going forward.



Y7 visit Magna Science Centre!



On 9th June, our excited Y7 students spent an amazing day at Magna Science Adventure Centre in Sheffield. Students and their science teachers explored pavilions themed around Air, Earth, Fire and Water and were able to get stuck in to a variety of interactive tasks including using water canons, forming and destroying tornadoes, and operating a JCB! Working in teams, students also completed hands-on workshops, using their knowledge of forces to build water rockets or hot air balloons. Overall, it was a fantastic and educational day out that we hope to repeat for next year's Y7 students.



Return of our Field Trips!

This year has been a very exciting year in the Crossley Heath Geography Department for many reasons but not least, it has seen the return of the fieldtrips! Fieldwork is a crucial element of the Geography curriculum and for obvious reasons, there have been very little opportunities for fieldwork over the past two years.

As much as we enjoyed carrying out fieldwork in our beautiful grounds, we longed for more faraway and exotic fieldwork destinations. That's why we were so excited to be heading to Salford Quays, Hornsea and North Yorkshire!

First up this year was our trip to Salford Quays in June with the Y9 Geographers. Here, students were investigating whether the regeneration of Salford Quays has been successful. This is a compulsory element of fieldwork for the GCSE Geography course. It was a brilliant day for both staff and students, with a particular highlight being the very joyful sing-a-long that occurred on the coach. Well done Y9!

The following week it was the turn of Y10

Geographers, this time to Hornsea. We told them prior to the trip to prepare for all weather conditions but really the day only showed us one: rain. The highlight (or lowlight for some) was when it started raining torrentially just as we were meeting at lunchtime. This led to all 96 geographers and 6 staff members huddled under a bandstand in the centre of Hornsea. Luckily some students had taken advantage of the closing down sale in Poundland and were armed with brollies! Despite the weather, the Y10s were fantastic and it was a great day out.

The final trip of the year was our Y12 fieldwork excursion to North Yorkshire. We were blessed with some great weather and it was brilliant to see our Y12 Geographers enjoying fieldwork after having so much of it cancelled over the past two years.

A big thank you to Mr Spencer for driving the minibus there and back!

We are already looking forward to next year's adventures.

The Geography Department.



Youngest Referee

Many congratulations to sixth form student Niamh O'Connor. In May, Niamh underwent Match Official training by the RFU and became both the youngest and the only female qualified referee in West Yorkshire for Rugby Union. She is now able to referee any games, open age and both male and female. Quite an accolade. Well done Niamh!

Music Trip to London

Music students from Y7-12 joined Mr Nimmo, Ms Peers, Mr Stead, Mrs Lea, Mrs Tomlinson & Mrs Callaghan on our residential to London this term.

We travelled down to our hotel in Wembley and then straight off to soak up the sights and sounds of Covent Garden followed by an essential stop at Pizza Hut before walking to our first show at the Cambridge Theatre - Matilda.

Our 'Revolting Children' thoroughly enjoyed the show and were singing the songs on the coach all the way back to the hotel.

The next day, after breakfast, we set off to catch a lovely boat along the Thames. We were treated to an explanation of some of the important and historical buildings on the waterfront. Walking past Westminster coincided with the news reports of the resignations so there were lots of world press setting up and it felt like a big announcement was about to happen... We headed off back into the world of fantasy to the matinee of Wicked at the Apollo theatre.

Our Music GCSE students are very familiar with the end of act 1



epic song 'Defying Gravity' as it is one of the 'set works' we study on the course. The 'prequel' story to the familiar Wizard of Oz story was cleverly constructed to introduce the characters we know and love from the classic story.

The coach journey out of London was hot and slow but thankfully the politicians had been kind enough to hold their announcements a little longer in time for us to exit the capital. A couple of movies on the coach helped to pass the time on our journey back to Yorkshire. The students were in high spirits and were superbly behaved; a great trip for all concerned.

As an ambassador for the **Teen Yoga Foundation** charity, it was an incredible honour to participate in a captivating discussion about yoga's potential to ameliorate the mental health crisis faced by young people. During this discussion, my knowledge of the crisis greatly increased. I learned that currently, 1 in 4 young people have reportedly engaged in self-harm (just in the UK – a first-world sovereign state) and it has taken up to 4 years for a child to receive a diagnosis for their mental health disorder. The exponentially increasing statistics of children experiencing bullying, loneliness and much more, was heart-breaking.

I've always been quite sceptical about the effort and attention that leaders and professionals direct towards mental health - I think it's easy to believe that mental health is completely overlooked, nobody is fighting for positive changes and that individual efforts don't really make a difference - but my feelings about this categorically changed during this meeting.

It was uplifting and eye-opening to be in the presence of MPs, doctors, teachers, charity workers and other healthcare professionals, who do recognise the issue and are fighting for a better future for young people's mental health. I delivered a speech about my own past mental health struggles; how practicing yoga has helped me and how I believe it can improve life for many others if they're given access to it.

When preparing the speech beforehand, I was doubtful about how much it would benefit the meeting however, the abundance of positive feedback I received afterwards was amazing. This experience showed me of the immense impact that individual voices can have. Young people especially can influence and contribute to a better future for our world - whether that is from the angle of mental health, the environment or fighting discrimination.

Since the event, I have written and published an article on the topic of the meeting, and have been deeply inspired to use my voice through further writing, sharing information on social media platforms, and talking to people around me to educate myself and others about current, threatening world issues and what we can do, as individuals, to contribute towards improving these.

It is never too late to begin to use your voice, engage in charity work, participate in progressive movements etc. because our world and our people desperately need our attention and help with the countless issues that we are currently facing.

Shivani Gopal, Y12

Further reading - Shivani's blogpost:

[An Evening at the Houses of Parliament: Discussing the mental health crisis, faced by young people... | by Shivani Gopal | Jul, 2022 | Medium](#)

Shivani visits the House of Commons



Biology Challenge



Twenty five of our budding Biologists in y9 and 10 gave up two lunchtimes to take part in the UKBC Biology Challenge this term. The challenge was a fun quiz of multiple choice questions on topics they have studied in the curriculum or may know about through their interest in the subject and knowledge through watching wildlife or medical TV programmes or videos.

Of the 25 participants that we entered, three achieved a bronze award:

Adam Dakin - Rayyaan Hussain - Tolisha Warnakulasooriya

Three achieved silver:

Bethan Phillips - Lewis Nash - Edith Davies

And two scored over 79% and achieved a gold award! Special well done to:

Frank Stuart and Ophelia Muxlow



Music 2022



New intake evening performances

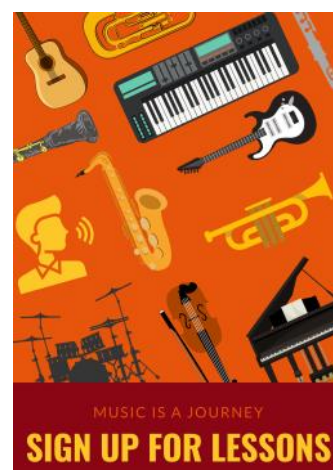
With the return of face-to-face events in school, it is wonderful to be able to allow our students to show their talents. A big thank you and well done to Anqi Guo, Finlay Hardy, Caitlin Phillips and Bethan Phillips for welcoming parents into the presentations with their wonderful piano playing.

Zinedine	Ayub	Piano	Grade 4
Ethan	Croll	Piano	Perf Grade 1
Rachel	Davis	Piano	Grade 7
Dinuli	Devasurendra	Singing/Piano	Grade 1/Grade 2
Imogen	Dixon	Singing for Mus Theatre	Perf Grade 5
Jad	Estephan	Piano	Grade 3
Katie	Gareis	Singing	Grade 2
Imogen	Gill	Piano	Grade 4
Oscar	Grimes	Alto Saxophone	Grade 1
Joseph	Guest	Piano	Grade 1
Umaima	Khan	Violin	Grade 2
Shamritha	Kumar	Piano	Grade 2
Isabel	Kuzhivelly	Violin	Grade 1
Michael	Laki	Piano	Grade 5
Annie	McKeown	Flute	Grade 4
Imogen	McNutt	Piano	Grade 2
Beatrice	Pedley	Flute	Grade 3
Iris	Peers-Webb	Singing	Grade 3
Bethan	Phillips	Piano	Grade 5
Caitlin	Phillips	Piano	Grade 6
Sara	Pruthi	Piano	Grade 5
Vanessa	Pukl	Piano	Grade 7
Lyela	Qin	Piano	Grade 3
Ruby	Rasakumaran	Piano/Singing	Grade 1/Grade 2
Arron	Sachdeva	Piano	Grade 5
Simra	Saim	Piano	Grade 1
Simra	Saim	Violin	Grade 1
Shivraj	Singh	Piano	Grade 2
Nina	Slyman	Piano	Grade 3
Pragya	Surabhi	Singing	Grade 3
Ria	Tandon	Singing for Mus Theatre	Perf Grade 4
Tolisha	Warnikulasooriya	Piano	Grade 3
Eira	Watson	Violin	Grade 1
Isobella	Wood	Piano	Grade 3

Diversity Day Performances

We are delighted that as part of our whole-school Diversity Day event, two of our newly-formed enrichment groups were able to make their performance debuts! Well done to Guitar Club for their stage performance of Brazil by Declan McKenna which they arranged themselves! For the performance, the group were directed by Hans Ibarra in Y12, who showed excellent leadership skills. Our thanks go to Mr Parker for his hard work with this group. Samba club also did their first public performance and it was suitably outdoors and in the sunshine!

Finlay Hardy and James Stokes (both in Y8) directed the group as they provided a carnival atmosphere to proceedings! Thank you to Mr Newsome for his efforts with Samba Club. We are excited to be able to provide more performance opportunities for our musicians in school and look forward to some exciting (and some brand new!) events next academic year. If you would like to join any of our enrichment groups in school, please contact Mr Nimmo r.nimmo@crossleyheath.org.uk



ABRSM exams

We are delighted to have been able to host two more exam sessions since Easter. The results are summarised left. Special mentions go to Ethan Croll, Rachel Davis, Imogen Dixon, Oscar Grimes, Annie McKeown, Shivraj Singh, Nina Slyman, Ria Tandon and Eira Watson who all passed with Merit. Also, many congratulations to Zinedine Ayub, Umaima Khan, Beatrice Pedley, Iris Peers-Webb, Vanessa Pukl and Pragya Surabhi who all achieved distinctions! Next year, the plan is to host another three exam sessions, one per term. Well done to all of our students!



Y12 visit Cambridge

On Thursday 7th July, a group of ten Y12 students travelled down to the open day at Cambridge University, the first time since 2019 that there has been an in-person event.

We stayed at Selwyn College which is our official link college for West Yorkshire. It is a beautiful college with the benefit of being slightly out of the 'touristy' bit of Cambridge, yet close enough for students to roll out of bed and be at a lecture within five minutes.

Cambridge is unlike many universities as students apply to study at one of its constituent colleges rather than to the university as a whole. We have a good record of students from Crossley Heath gaining places at Cambridge University and many choose to study at Selwyn.

An evening meal at Pizza Express was followed by a walking tour of the city led by Mr Coote, so that everyone could get their bearings. Students had some free time before returning to our accommodation and most decided a dessert emporium was in order!

Waking up to perfect blue skies, we walked down to breakfast in the very grand college dining hall before despatching students off to their various talks. Mrs Pennington and Mr Coote walked into Cambridge to collect information for students who weren't able to come on the trip, then had a look



round Gonville and Caius college as well as a tour of the impressive King's college (pictured above). During the day, the students attended talks about their prospective subjects and how to make competitive applications. They visited departments and colleges across the city and everyone had an impressive step-count by the end of the day. Mr Coote and Mrs Pennington would like to thank all our Y12 students for making it a very enjoyable trip

We are developing ever-closer links with Selwyn College and are planning a further residential visit this October with our incoming Y12 students who may be interested in applying to Cambridge or Oxford Universities.

Environment & Wildlife Club



It has been a busy year for the club, restoring the garden after it had become overgrown during COVID. We have been fundraising and you may have bought one of our valentine's roses, or better still been given one. We also had a Jubilee plant pot competition, and the winner of the best design was Tumelo Mutale and the runner up Ankit Karadi, pictured below. We hope they enjoyed their



chocolate hampers!

The house garden competition has been running this term with a Jubilee theme. Members of Porter and Savile took an early lead, but it could all change in the penultimate week of term. We would like to give our thanks to the CHPTA who have given us the money for the tools, plants and prizes to help us renovate this fabulous space.

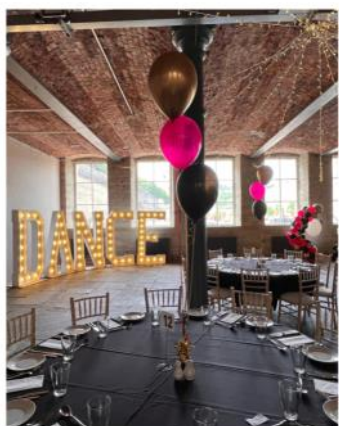
We would like to continue with our plea to all who read this: If you are replacing your garden furniture and have sturdy old furniture you need to get rid of, please send us a photo before you send it to the tip as it may be useful for us. Best wishes from the sixth form gardening team,

Aisha, Evelyn, Halima, Misbah, Samiyah, Selina and Zainab,
The Environment & Wildlife Club

Proms at the Arches

Both our Y11 and Y13 students celebrated the end of their exams in style with their Proms this year held

at the Arches in Dean Clough. Thanks to all our parents who were involved in the planning and the staff at The Arches for their support in creating such fantastic events for our students.





Members of our KS3-4 Debating team at the Square Chapel event in July.



Debating Society winners!

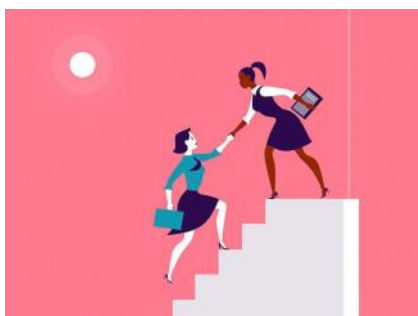
Our lower school Debating Society has been meeting weekly to work through motions and practise debates with students either taking active part or forming part of the audience/ chair/time keeping roles.

We were invited to take part in a Debating Competition in July, organised by 'Slow the Flow', a charity who work to advance public awareness of natural flood management and to promote renewable methods of managing the environment.

The competition took place at Square Chapel and our Y10 team debated the motion 'This house believes that the UK's recent response to flooding and climate change is inadequate and needs a different approach'. Several students prepared the proposition and opposition arguments: Aaliyah Akhtar, Isha Jayakumar, Madeleine Smart, Shreeyash Dash, Ruby Noszkay, Bethan Phillips, Imaan Guhffar and Jane Howard. Then Madeleine, Isha and Aliyah put forward the arguments in the actual debate. We were delighted to be crowned winners, picking up a big trophy and bowling vouchers for all the students.

The next objective will be to enter the Schools' Mace next academic year.

Make use of the Crossley Heath Careers Fund!



As students continue to take part in training, expeditions or courses, working towards their future careers, please be aware of our Careers Fund. This fund exists to help both present and former pupils of Crossley Heath School to further their chosen career and makes payments each year to suitable applicants.

In the past we have helped our students and former-students with contributions towards internships, challenges, expeditions abroad, theatre companies, charity projects, Olympic training and

Medlink courses, to name just a few. If you are undertaking any work experience that will incur a cost, maybe we can help towards it?

If you would like to make an application to the Fund, at any stage of your career either now or in the future, simply drop a line to the Secretary, Hazel Clayton, at hazelclayton42@hotmail.co.uk and let us know what you're planning. All applications are confidential.



Children's Book of the Year 2022

Ten Crossley Heath students were selected to join others from individual secondary schools across the county to read four shortlisted novels and to write book reviews for this year's Children's Book of the Year Award.

Despite the event once again being held virtually, our students 'met' the authors, had discussions with other schools online and voted on their favourite book. The enthusiasm, engagement and interest from them all was fantastic and very encouraging. Well done all who took part:

Eira Watson, Dev Rajarathinam Bhavyakrishna, Myra Garg, Dylan Prieditis, Rana Abdulrheem, Henry Aigbogun, Sasha Anonde, Aneeqa Hussain, Maryam Ahmed and Nina Slyman.

The eventual award winning book was **The Summer We Turned Green** by William Sutcliffe.



Sustainability Day



Thursday 23rd of June was Crossley Heath's first ever Sustainability Day. The goal of the event was to raise enough money for a new water fountain in school, by students wearing non-uniform (and being encouraged to wear some green) and taking part in various activities.

Members of the Eco Club loved choosing events that would appeal to all students and teachers alike; the line-up was a bake sale, a jewellery sale, 'Sponge the Teacher', and even a speed recycling competition. The bake sale was particularly popular, and students in the club were eager to help sell and provide tasty treats for the school.

One of the most enjoyed events of the day was probably 'Sponge the Teacher' at lunchtime – two teachers volunteered to sit opposite a line of students who were ready to pelt them with wet sponges. The combined great atmosphere and student participation made the event enjoyable for all – although maybe not including the teachers in the firing line! It was a great success and we can't wait for next year!

Susan Ajayi and Nina Slyman, Crossley Heath Eco Club.

ECO CLUB: Hopes for the Future

The members of eco-club are very aware and active people, who know that environmental issues have been increasing, and as they increase, the need for others to play their part in reducing negative impacts on the environment does too. This can be done in several ways: from recycling materials such as plastic, to buying a reusable water bottle, or even just turning off the light switch when leaving a room. However, there are many different problems around the world today that range from industrial fishing to climate change, and for each varying concern there are various ways we can help. At Eco-Club, this is our main focus – what can we do to have a role in creating an ideal environment?

Our fundraiser Sustainability Day raised over £800 and with a better financial stance, options for making a sustainable future became a lot more open; consequently, it was decided that one of the biggest hopes for our future is installing recycling bins at school. In 2021, the recycling rate was only 63.2%. The main source of plastic waste at school is from pre-packaged food and

instead of this being disposed in a normal litter bin, it makes much more sense for it to be disposed of in a way beneficial to all. This idea does require cooperation from all members of the Crossley Heath community, and the bins should be used in a way that is sensible and respectful of its purpose – to recycle a certain type of material. Plastic recycling bins will not be alone, but will be joined by paper recycling bins, perhaps as well as metal, paper and glass bins also.

We also hope to start using compost bins. Many students and staff consume their lunch and sometimes breakfast at school. However, it is understandable that food cannot always be finished, or any scraps from excellent cooking by the kitchen staff cannot be used, and this can lead to high levels of wastage. An easy way to prevent this is by using compost bins – this is a sustainable method that ensures minimum levels of wastage whilst also making soil, certainly a desirable product to the people at Gardening Club.

Our final aim is to have accessible water fountains around the school buildings and grounds. Instead of buying single-use plastic water bottles, buying a reusable water bottle is a much more environmentally friendly option. By doing this, it is hoped that the use of plastic bottles will cease, and that means the path to a sustainable, environmentally friendly future is a step closer.

Suhaani Sharma

Planning for Berlin trip 2023!



Our Y11 students moving up to Y12 in September may be interested in our planned trip to Berlin!

This will be a three day trip during w/c 27th March 2023, and will be a joint venture between Art, History and German departments. It will be open to Y12 and Y13 students studying those subjects in the first instance.

This is a very exciting opportunity for our A-Level students and has always been a hugely popular trip in previous years.

If students are interested they can email Mrs Grossova to be put on the list: s.grossova@crossleyheath.org.uk

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ATHLETICS

Our Y7 and Y8 athletics teams took part in the English Schools Athletics Track and Field Cup competition, held at Thornes Park Stadium in Wakefield. There were some great performances on the track and in the field with our girls team finishing in 4th place and the boys in 5th place overall. We didn't qualify for the next round but our athletes enjoyed the experience of competing against athletes from other schools across the county.

At the Calderdale Super 8s Competition held at Spring Hall, there were again some strong performances from our Y7 and Y8 athletes. We finished in 2nd place overall out of ten schools, just one point behind rivals North Halifax! Our Y8s won all their relay races along with others, and special mention to Alex Burke who beat a nationally-ranked fell runner, and to Zara Blanchard who was victorious in the 1500 metres after stepping in last minute as a substitute.

Congratulations to two of our students, Y13 Tegan Hamilton-Adams and Y12 Isabel Richardson, who were selected to represent Calderdale in the West Yorkshire Championships. Tegan came 2nd in the 400m hurdles and Isabel won the 3,000m race. Isabel was then selected to represent West Yorkshire in the English Schools Athletics championships which this year was held in Manchester, where she ran a personal best time in the senior girls 1500m event.

ROUNDERS

Rounders has continued to be a popular summer time sport at school, with many girls attending lunchtime practice. We have played matches against Halifax Academy, Ryburn, North Halifax and Huddersfield Grammar and have also taken part in the Calderdale tournaments held at Brighouse High. In the recent Y7 tournament, our squad was somewhat depleted due to players being on the Music trip, however our young team stepped up to the mark to win games against Trinity Academy and Park Lane but then narrowly losing to Calder by half a rounder and also to Brighouse High and NHGS. There was excellent play by Isla Smart on 2nd base, Imogen Gill and Anya Mu as bowlers and also Alzahraa Al doori as backstop. Special mention also to Zara Blanchard, Smithi Karthik and to Madison McMurdo for their strong batting skills.

**TENNIS**

We made the decision this year not to enter the LTA league when, as no other local schools had entered, we had been drawn against schools from the far ends of the county. Instead we invited some local schools to take part in matches and happily Huddersfield Grammar agreed to play us. Our Y7/8 and Y9/10 tennis players took part in two competitive and enjoyable sessions at Queens Sports Club, where our players competed in both singles and doubles matches.

In the Y7/8 matches, a couple of our strongest male players were unfortunately unable to play due to illness however others stepped in and the result of the competition was very close with our girls teams winning 7 matches and the boys winning 5. Well done to Farwah Asim, Rehya Dawett, Thea Patterson, Risha Nandish, Mariam Nadeem, Emily Harrison, Jack Drummond, George Wang, Yusef Raqib, William Cullen, Ranulph Hawes and Aaryan Grewal.

ARTISTIC SWIMMING

It is always great to hear about our students excelling in sporting events outside school. This summer, two of our Y8 students Chloe Shillito and Katie Gareis represented The "Rubies" City of Bradford Artistic Swimming team who were named as UK Champions in the Division 1 15 & under age group in the Swim England Combo Cup at the Olympic Aquatic Centre.

Hot on the heels of their Yorkshire Championships victory two weeks ago, the team of 8 athletes (Chloe and Katie are both captain and vice captain respectively), were awarded an impressive 55 points by the 15 judges for their routine from the musical "Six". They compete in a division of 21 teams from around the country with the club recently moving from Halifax to Bradford.

SQUASH

Another of our Y9 students, Tolisha Warnakulasooriya, has also been hitting the headlines recently as her squash career goes from strength to strength.

Tolisha recently played in the girls under 15 age group in the London Junior gold tournament where she competed against the best junior players in England. Her excellent

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match play managed to secure her first place, which put her ranking at 2nd in the country. An excellent achievement - well done Tolisha!

GIRLS FOOTBALL

The U13 Girls' football squad have also taken part in four festivals this term and have had some success with the players enjoying the opportunity to play against other schools and showing improvement in skill level and confidence. There has been some outstanding play from Ida Johnson, Reshem Noor, Hana Suleman in defence and midfield, with Alexia Warburton scoring several goals up front.

BASKETBALL

The 6th Form basketball players, at last, managed to take to the court for a competitive fixture, playing a combined year group team from NHGS. It was a fitting occasion given that they have missed so much opportunity during the pandemic to play, alongside their imminent study leave and final exams. The students have been a pleasure to be involved with and have supported the basketball provision here at Crossley Heath over a number of years both before the pandemic and after. Many thanks to them all and in particular Oliver Kerwin-Clegg and Jay Junio who have coached the junior basketball teams to good success this year.

Y7 CRICKET

It was the batting prowess of the team that saw Crossley's through in round one, against local rivals Ryburn, and they faced Kettlethorpe, Wakefield, today in round two. But after a below par performance with the bat, Crossley Heath had to produce a strong display of bowling to win this game and they did that superbly.

Crossley's batted first and, despite some quick runs off the first two overs, Monty Ramsden and Ollie Simpson were out early. Sebby Hawke and Ayaan Akram held firm for a while, Ayaan top scoring on 25, but wickets tumbled against some good Kettlethorpe bowling.

A total of just 98 runs put pressure on the Crossley's bowlers but they stepped up and delivered with pace and accuracy to squeeze the confidence out of their opponents from the first ball. Opening pair Ollie and Sebby bowled with speed and swing and claimed two wickets in their first overs. Kettlethorpe were

never let off from pressure with Sebby getting two more wickets in his second over. He ended the game with four wickets. The Crossley's team showed that they have bowling strength throughout with Matthew Dakin, Ayaan, Monty, Matthew Allcock and Indraneil Nair all showing well. But the biggest cheer went up when Isaac Musgrave, relatively new to the sport, claimed the last wicket. Crossley's won by 52 runs.

Congratulations to the team. Another fine display of togetherness and self-belief.



Y9 CRICKET

The Y9 (U14) cricket team secured their place in R3 of the Yorkshire County Cup with a dominant performance against an accomplished Holmfirth High side. Winning the toss and electing to bat first, Crossley's began in their, now, customary fashion with Jack Wilkinson and Om Behera at the crease and playing some sublime shots. They made 100 runs between them and set a solid foundation for the Crossley's team.

When Wilkinson was uncharacteristically dismissed for 34, with a full stretch catch at mid-wicket, Behera then stepped up his game to thrash 66 not out with some elegant and frequent cuts to the boundary. Captain Matt Brearley knocked a supportive 12 not out coming in at number 3. Helped by some loose bowling by the Holmfirth team, Crossley's ended their innings on 151 for 1.

The action required to win the game was clear at the change of innings. Disciplined and consistent bowling to put pressure on the home batsmen was a priority. This was achieved superbly. Openers Wilkinson and Samir Ayub bowled with pace and variation to threaten and frustrate the good batting pair for Holmfirth. Ayub's attack resulted in their opener spooning the ball for a second time with Ayub taking the catch too to remove him and set the tone for the rest of the bowling attack. Wilkinson's line and occasional slower ball should have taken wickets but he was unlucky.

After 8 overs Holmfirth required an unlikely run rate and when Brearley, began his spell with real zip, the pressure was maintained and Holmfirth were losing hope with every ball. Oscar Grimes (Y8), Lakshya Kaushik and Harvey Bhullar combined to give a variety of bowling that never let the batters settle into a rhythm and the home side fell 63 runs short.

COUNTY CRICKET SELECTION

Huge congratulations to Om Behera in Y9 who has been selected to play for the Yorkshire U14 Cricket Squad.

Many congratulations also to Monty Ramsden in Y7 who has been chosen to play for Yorkshire U12s.



Term Dates

Closed for INSET Thu 1 September

Re-opens: Friday 2 September (Y7/Y12 only)

Opens to all: Monday 5 September

Closes Half Term: Friday 21 October

Re-open: Monday 31 October

Closes End of Term: Friday 16 December



Sep/Oct Calendar

- | | |
|-------|--|
| 1 Sep | Staff INSET Day - school closed to students |
| 2 | School open to Y7 and Y12 only |
| 5 | School open to all students |
| 12 | Y7-10-12 photos (Gillman & Soame) |
| 14 | CHPTA meeting 6.30pm |
| 15 | Y12 & 13 Information Evening |
| 27 | Y7 Art Trip |
| 24 | 11+ Entrance Exam |
| 4 Oct | Y7 Transition Review with tutors |
| 5 | CHPTA meeting 6.30pm |
| 6 | Y10-11 Skills Seminar |
| 13 | Life After Crossley Heath event (Sixth Form) |
| 17 | Y7 History trip this week |
| 21 | School closes for Half Term |



Head Boy and Girl

Say hello to Sai Karumuri and Sloka Jami, our new Head Boy and Head Girl. They are already full on in their new roles representing the school at official functions and working hard on behalf of all our students. Congratulations to both of them on their appointment!



Crossley Heath
Parent Teacher Association

PTA News

The CHPTA would like to thank all parents that have supported our fundraising this year. Due to your generosity pupils have benefitted from the following extra resources in school:

- Scientific equipment for Biology
- Mental Health workshops and support for Y12/13
- German / French language theatre productions
- Laptops for SEN students
- Saws for Engineering & New Fridge for Food Technology

Family Quiz Night

We were very pleased to be able to host our Family Quiz Night this term. It was a close contest but congratulations went to The McChads who won the Quizley Heath Cup 2022. Thanks to everyone who participated and all the CHPTA volunteers who organised such an enjoyable fundraising event.

Monthly Prize Draw 2022/23

Tickets priced at £30 are now available to purchase on ParentPay. Enter to be in with a chance of winning £80, £50 or £20 in our monthly draw. The first draw will be at the end of September and you can enter as many times as you like!

Volunteers Needed

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



www.facebook.com/CrossleyHeathPTA

Hellos and Goodbyes

We say goodbye this term to Ms Yates (singing teacher), Mr Parker (electric guitar teacher) and Mrs Mileham (Healthcare Assistant). Also goodbye and good luck to Mr McLaughlan (English) who is taking up a promotion and to Mr Brown (Maths) who is moving abroad, as well as Mrs English who has been covering for us in Food Tech. Good luck also to Ms Turner (Geography) who is going off on maternity leave.

Fond farewells go to Mrs Grant (Head of Chemistry) who begins her retirement and is looking forward to a hopefully more relaxed pace of life after 27 years teaching at Crossley Heath.

We look forward to welcoming our new staff in September:

- Brooke Sykes – KS4 Lead/ Teacher of English
- Caroline Lowery – Lead Teacher for Food and Nutrition
- Nadia Rasul – Teacher of Chemistry
- Scarlett Gaukrodger – Teacher of Geography
- Khurram Malik – Teacher of Mathematics & Computer Science
- Jennifer Savage-Clark - Singing Teacher
- Brian Acton - Guitar Teacher
- Zakeya Azam - Teacher of Sociology and Psychology