

STAY IN TOUCH

Crompton House C of E School Newsletter



Issue 21 - January 2022

WELCOME BACK AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

Welcome back to all our pupils, staff and families, we hope you had an enjoyable Christmas break.

It certainly was a busy end to 2021 here at Crompton House. Many wonderful festive events took place throughout Advent; with our pupils bringing the spirit and meaning of Christmas to life in school. I hope you enjoy seeing what our young people have been up to in this issue of the newsletter. We look forward to sharing the many successes that lie ahead over the course of 2022. Wishing you all a Happy New Year.



MR KARL NEWELL, HEADTEACHER

ALL THE FUN OF THE CHRISTMAS FAIR!

The PTFA Christmas Fair took place on 11th December and raised an INCREDIBLE £4,000!

Visitors browsed the stalls and enjoyed fabulous live performances from the Music Department. Thanks to all our staff, partners, parents, carers, students and suppliers for helping, donating, running stalls and giving their time. Special thanks go to Mrs Christie for making such a magical grotto, Mr and Mrs Emms (Mr and Mrs Claus) and Little Owl Farm for donating the beautiful Christmas tree.



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NEIGHBOURLY HAMPER BRINGS CHRISTMAS JOY

MRS CULLEN
LEARNING ZONE

Before Christmas I received a call from 88 year old Mrs Knight, a CHS neighbour, who was wondering if our library donated books.

She explained that she liked to read as she spends a lot of time at home by herself. I mentioned this to our Student Book Council and in addition to finding a selection of books they felt Mrs Knight might enjoy, this kind-hearted group of students took it upon themselves to build a Christmas hamper filled with all sorts of treats - including Christmas cake, fluffy socks, slippers, chocolates, crayons and word search puzzles.

Students Courtney, Annabel, Bella, Liv, Neve, Lola, Amna, Inayah, Niala, Ella and Holly-Marie who are in Years 7 - 10, delivered the lovely hamper before we finished for the Christmas holidays. Mrs Knight, who was very overwhelmed, did have a little cry (happy tears) but was so grateful to the group.

I am incredibly proud of these young people and the way they represented our school in the local community; showing such care and compassion in these unprecedented times. Mrs Knight's son David was also there during our visit and afterwards emailed school to say:

"Some people make the world a better place. You and your pupils are those people".

The Knight family kindly sent in a thank you card and a box of chocolates for our students to enjoy.

The Student Book Council always welcomes new members, students can come and see me in the Learning Zone to find out more about how to join.

Above: Members of the Student Book Council visit local lady Mrs Knight to deliver a hamper filled with a thoughtful selection of books and Christmas treats



New Year, New Name!

The Student Book Council are rebranding their group with a catchy new name for 2022. Members are putting forward suggestions and will announce their new name in next month's issue!



Follow the Learning Zone on Twitter!
@CLearningzone

FESTIVE TREATS IN FOOD TECH

MRS KENNEDY
FOOD DEPARTMENT

The end of the year was a busy one for our Food students! They celebrated the season by making some excellent Christmas themed food products.

Year 8 decorated Christmas yule logs and made chocolate buttercream to cover with a dusting of icing sugar to create a snowy effect. Year 10 and 11 went one step further and learnt to use sugar paste to model their own snowmen for decoration. Our Hospitality and Catering students also made mince pies.

Year 7 learnt how to use the rubbing in method to make Christmas shaped shortbread biscuits. Students formed their dough wonderfully to create a batch of evenly rolled biscuits.

After school, myself and Mrs Bloor ran a three week Christmas cooking club for Year 9. A number of students attended each week and learnt to make shortcrust pastry for mince pies. Students also made a chocolate swiss roll from scratch and shaped them to form yule logs. Students made their own buttercream and modelled sugar paste to make snowmen. The students in attendance really enjoyed the club. They were delighted with the Christmas goods they got to take home and the new skills they learnt.

We have new displays in R204 which feature a literacy word board full of sensory descriptors that can be used to describe the taste, texture, aroma, and appearance of food products. We hope students will refer to this display to expand and develop their vocabulary when describing and evaluating their own food products and make suggestions for improvements.



 Follow us on Instagram!
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CHRISTMAS COMMUNION UNITES SCHOOL IN PRAYER

MR HOLT

DEPUTY HEAD TEACHER

It was a pleasure to welcome Rev. Katy Cunliffe to school to lead our Christmas Communion service for pupils and staff.

The service encouraged us to reflect on the past year and celebrate the true meaning of Christmas. The focus on '*friends, family and faith*' joined us together with the whole of the Church of England family, to share what's really '*at the heart of Christmas*'.

We worshipped together in the Hall, giving thanks and praise to God, in celebration of the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Thank you to the Music Department who played a lovely selection of Christmas carols, and to all the volunteers who read so well during the service.



At the heart of Christmas



Monday 13th December saw the return of *Christmas Movie Night* hosted by the Learning Zone!

Students had chosen to watch *The Polar Express* but due to a technical hitch, ended up watching *Home Alone*! In true movie night style, they tucked in to popcorn, chocolate and lots of other tasty treats.

A lovely couple of hours was had by all who attended - we can't wait to do it again next Christmas!



CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY!





MRS NIXON
MUSIC DEPARTMENT

December is perhaps one of the busiest months in the academic year for the Music Department, and also the month where our students and staff have the most fun!

During Advent, students embraced every opportunity they had to perform, and were pleased to share their musical talents with audiences at a variety of live events. The Brass Band played brilliantly at the *Oldham Metro Rotary Concert* on 4th December and we hope the musical welcome from the Brass Ensemble outside the main entrance on the last day of term put everyone in the festive mood!

The school Christmas concert was held on 13th December with performances from choirs and ensembles across the full age range of Crompton House. The concert marked the end of a busy term of music-making that included our Lower School Concerts - *Colours of Crompton* and *Altogether Now*, regular rehearsals for all groups, the start of our *Bronze Arts Award* scheme, and the introduction of our Junior and Senior Music Prefects.

Students also performed for residents at Hopwood Court and toured three primary schools, including Beal Vale, led by Oldham Music Service.

We are greatly looking forward to 2022, with Music Centre Concert Week taking place in March, as well as our Spring Concert planned for 5th April.



Above: The CHS Brass Band rehearsing backstage for their performance at St James' Church, Derker



Left: The Brass Ensemble outside the main entrance on the last day of term

 Follow us on Instagram!
@CHSMusicDep

SIXTH FORMERS PUT PEN TO PAPER TO SPREAD CHRISTMAS KINDNESS



DR PANNELL
SIXTH FORM CENTRE

CHS Sixth Form students did their bit to spread some Christmas cheer by writing cards to residents of local nursing homes.

Sixth Formers took part in this year's ***Cards for Kindness*** scheme, a programme launched four years ago by *Lancashire County Council* to help counter the loneliness experienced by people in care homes.

Lancashire and South Cumbria Health Care Partnership reports that ***"loneliness is a growing problem among older people, and in care homes it can be a particularly difficult issue to resolve. Figures from Age UK show that 200,000 older people have not had a conversation with friends or family for a month, and 60% of people in care homes get no visitors at all."***

Writing over 500 cards as part of the last session in this term's PSHE programme, the Sixth Formers added personalised messages about what they enjoyed at Christmas, with some including corny cracker jokes to raise a smile. The campaign focussed on the theme of *"what warms your heart at Christmas"*, inspiring students to share family traditions and write about their favourite festive foods. The aim of the messages was to bring back happy memories for the nursing home residents, and spark conversations about the festive season.

Mr Smith, Head of Sixth Form says:

"We were really pleased to take part in this year's Cards for Kindness campaign and are planning for it to become a CHS Sixth Form Christmas tradition. It was great to see our students so invested in writing the cards, especially the different messages included on each one."

The cards were distributed to local nursing homes in Shaw, Royton, Oldham and Rochdale, with staff at the homes delighted to receive the packs of envelopes.

More information on the Cards for Kindness scheme can be found at: <https://healthierlsc.co.uk/CardsForKindness>

 Follow us on Instagram!
@chs6form

 Follow us on Twitter!
@chs6formupdates



Caring Sixth Formers wrote over 500 Christmas cards for the 'Cards for Kindness' scheme



Dr Pannell, Assistant Head of Sixth Form, personally delivered some of the students' cards to St George's Care Centre in Moorside and Shawside Care Village in Shaw



DECEMBER'S MATHS SUPERSTARS!



COMING UP IN FEBRUARY...

Diversity Ambassadors raise awareness of LGBTQ+ History Month
Chapel Choir at Manchester Cathedral - Author visit for Holocaust Memorial Day
Artwork of the Week - PTFA News and much more!

500 CLUB

PLAY OUR WEEKLY DRAW AND SUPPORT CROMPTON HOUSE PTFA!

PAY **£1 PER WEEK** TO BE IN WITH A CHANCE OF WINNING ONE OF 3 CASH PRIZES EACH MONTH

1st Prize - £50
2nd Prize - £40
3rd Prize - £20

TO JOIN THE 500 CLUB PLEASE EMAIL
500club@cromptonhouse.org

STAY IN TOUCH!

We are always delighted to hear about our students' successes, in and out of school! If you have a story to share please contact:
stayintouch@cromptonhouse.org

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