

STAY IN TOUCH

Crompton House C of E School Newsletter



Issue 23 - Easter 2022



FOLLOW US ON TWITTER
@CHSupdates

HEADTEACHER'S WELCOME

Spring has finally sprung, and it's been another busy half-term at Crompton House. We are delighted to share with you some of our latest news and wish all our families a very Happy Easter.

MR KARL NEWELL



WORLD BOOK DAY



It was wonderful to see the whole school get involved in World Book Day on 3rd March! Everyone looked fantastic dressed as their favourite literary characters; with Where's Wally, The Midnight Gang, Cruella de Vil, Sherlock Holmes and Severus Snape to name but a few. The Science Department went with the theme of 'His Dark Materials' and brought their cuddly daemons into school on the day!

[Watch our video here!](https://bit.ly/3hA5EHpWBD)

<https://bit.ly/3hA5EHpWBD>

In honour of the 25th anniversary, a variety of exciting book-themed activities and events were on offer to students throughout the week, during English lessons and in the Library.

Just before 10am, the timetable came to a halt and every class watched a surprise World Book Day video featuring students, staff and the award winning children's author Tom Palmer, to introduce the 'Drop Everything and Read' session - ten minutes of quiet reading time.

The infants at Beal Vale Primary were treated to special story time sessions, read by some of our Book Council members, which was thoroughly enjoyable for all involved. 'Book Swap Week' also took place in the Learning Zone and as the event was so popular, it will continue for the rest of this academic year. Every student received a free £1 book token that they were able to exchange for a free book.



WE
READ
AT CROMPTON HOUSE





RED NOSE DAY FUN!

Crompton House certainly put the 'fun' into fundraising this year for Red Nose Day! Students didn't need asking twice if they would like to 'sponge the teacher' and over £300 was raised for Comic Relief! Courtney Latif in Y10, wrote this article about the day's events:

At Crompton House we organised a sponge throwing contest at the teachers and face painting to raise money for charities who support children and help ensure they get the best start in life.

Dr Whitworth and Dr Pannell both said: *"As a fortunate school, it is important that we share what we have - to raise money in a fun way is the most important thing about Comic Relief"* and Mr Newell commented that importance of Comic Relief is *"having fun whilst helping the people less fortunate than ourselves."*

As you can see from the photos, we did have a lot of fun and the teachers were very good sports! We would like to say a massive thank you to the Sixth Formers who organised this event, to the teachers for allowing sponges to be thrown at them, but most of all to all the students who took part, because without you we would not have raised any money at all for a great cause.

Comic relief was founded in 1985 by screenwriter Richard Curtis and comedian Sir Lenny Henry. The charity was initially set up in response to a huge famine in Ethiopia, Africa. It has since evolved and now raises money for vulnerable and disadvantaged people in both the UK and Africa.



DONATIONS FOR UKRAINE

When war broke out in Ukraine, kind hearted Y12 student Thomas Penketh decided to take action to help those fleeing the conflict.

Teaming up with Pound Buster in Shaw, Tom arranged for Crompton House to be a collection point, and appealed for donations in school and across the local community. The response was fantastic and the donations were driven to the Ukrainian border by Steve Hill's Charitable Trust. Thomas, who was recently elected Deputy Member of the Youth Parliament for Oldham, said: *"Watching the news, I felt we needed to do something to help the Ukranian people. I intend do some further fundraising in the coming weeks."*



#WriteaSmile



The #WriteaSmile postcard project was one of a variety of activities that happened in school to raise awareness of Children's Mental Health Week - 7th - 11th February.

Thought up by Y8 student Kaya Read, the #WriteaSmile postcard project encourages students to think about what makes them feel happy, a funny memory, poem or joke - write it down on a colourful postcard, and send it to someone else, with the aim of bringing a smile to the faces of both the writer and the reader.

Year 8 English students along with the School Book Council; wrote over 60 postcards for the children at Beal Vale Primary School, part of the Crompton House C of E Multi Academy Trust. The theme of this year's Children's Mental Health Week was 'Growing Together', and the students hope #WriteaSmile will encourage links between pupils at both schools to blossom. Beal Vale pupils wrote back and our students loved reading their replies. Mr Newell and Mr Ball even got involved and decided to #WriteaSmile to each other!



Some students wrote to their teachers too!



Mr Newell delivered the postcards to Mr Ball and the children at Beal Vale



#WriteaSmile Ambassadors Kaya and Madison



OONAGH SCOOPS NATIONAL BRONZE MEDAL

Talented Y7 athlete Oonagh McManus competed in the Pentathlon GB British Schools Modern Biathlon in Bath on Sunday 20th March and was delighted to bring back a national bronze medal.

Oonagh, was proud to represent Crompton House in the prestigious national competition, which saw her go head-to-head against 80 other promising young athletes from across the country, and come third overall in the Under 13's category.

In order to qualify for the British Schools Modern Biathlon, Oonagh competed in her first ever run/swim event - the Northern Schools Championships, held at Edge Hill University in January. On her debut, she won the gold medal and collected well over the 2000 points needed for a place in the nationals.

Arriving in Bath hopeful of a top 10 finish, Oonagh's steely focus saw her go on to achieve a personal best in the 1600m race, followed by another personal best in the 100m freestyle swim - securing herself a spot on the winner's podium.

Mr Newell said: ***"We are all incredibly proud of Oonagh's success at the National Schools Championships. Her achievement was a culmination of a huge amount of hard work, commitment and determination. Oonagh is a fantastic role model whom we hope will motivate and inspire other young athletes to follow in her footsteps."***

FANTASTIC FOOTBALLERS!

What a month for football at CHS! Y9B won 2-1 to lift the winners' trophy in the finals of the Oldham Plate and Y10 Girls won 5-0 and were crowned the winners of the 'Sisters n Sport' plate. Y7A were crowned champions of the Oldham Cup and Y7B were the winners of the Oldham Schools Football Tournament.



Other notable footballing achievements this month include...

Y11 Girls won 2-0 in the semi-finals and will now play in the finals of the Greater Mcr Cup

Y10 Boys - runners up in the Oldham Plate finals - a sterling effort from the team.

Y8 Boys - a 4-0 win against Saddleworth secure them a place in the finals of the Oldham Cup

Congratulations to all the players on their hard work and dedication - you have done yourselves and your school proud!



OXBRIDGE SUCCESS!

Congratulations to Y12 students Anita Okunde and Liana Cheetham who have both made successful university applications to Oxford and Cambridge!

Anita has been offered a place at Magdalen College, Oxford to study Politics, Philosophy and Economics and Liana has been accepted at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge to read Psychology & Behavioural Science. The girls are both thrilled to have been successful in securing their places - very well done to both of them!



Some of our Gifted & Talented Y10 students went on an exciting visit to Trinity College, Cambridge at the beginning of March with Dr Whitworth and Mr Banks. They had a great time and got the chance to see Sir Isaac Newton's papers and walking stick on display in the library - as well as the original *Winnie the Pooh* manuscript!

WOMEN'S HISTORY

RECOMMENDED BY MRS CULLEN IN THE LEARNING ZONE!

We celebrated Women's History Month in March and took inspiration from Sora's wonderful selection of books by female authors and those featuring strong female characters. Check them out on Sora:

<https://soraapp.com/welcome>

Why not have a look at one of the recommendations below...



Sora

The student reading app



"Where Will Your Reading Journey Take You?"

Create a bookmark based on your favourite fictional location & win a prize!

Transport yourself to a fantasy land, such as:

Hogwarts The Capitol Gotham City Asgard The Shire or Narnia!

How to enter:

- 1) Pick up a template from the library
- 2) Be creative with your design (no glitter please)
- 3) Write the name of the fictional destination & your name on the back
- 4) Hand your completed entry to Mrs Cullen in the library

Closing date: Monday 25th April 2022

The winner will receive a prize and their bookmark will be printed & used to promote Crompton House School

ICELAND ADVENTURE

BY IMOGEN HURST

Y11 GEOGRAPHY STUDENT

We were all so excited to board our flight from Manchester on 21st February, to spend five days in Iceland - a once in a lifetime experience! However, after passing through security in Reykjavik, it became clear that our itinerary had changed due to a storm hitting Iceland that night. The roads were shut, so we set off for an emergency night's stay in the Viking Hotel. After a bumpy coach ride through the storm, we arrived safely and enjoyed some delicious homemade Icelandic food.

With another change to our plans the next day, we went swimming at Laugardalslaug pool in Reykjavik - there was a water slide which even the teachers went down a few times! We spent the rest of the afternoon in Reykjavik town, exploring the local shops and tourist destinations, stopping at Sólfar and Hallgrímskirkja. The next day we visited the Lava Centre, and learnt about the volcanic processes that formed Iceland, and viewed Eyjafjallajökull from the platform above the centre.

At Seljalandsfoss, we found the spectacular hidden waterfall by walking through a cave, over icy rocks (hoping nobody would fall into the water!). We had some fun in the snow, and went on a guided walk to hear about how the Sólheimajökull glacier was formed. We were kitted out with crampons, harnesses and ice picks, which we were allowed to use to break some of the ice (sucking on it for refreshment). We also saw the sad truth of how climate change has caused the glaciers to retreat, even just in the past decade. The next stop was Skógafoss Waterfall to climb the hundreds of stairs and see the breath taking view from the top - then on to Black Sand Beach, to explore the landforms on the coastline.

On our last day we took part in the Golden Circle tour, driving to Gullfoss Waterfall: one of the most impressive in Europe. We arrived at the Great Geysir, all hoping to get the perfect photo of the eruption. It was a slippery walk back to the coach where spotted beautiful horses. We went on next to the relaxing Fontana Spa, with geothermal pools and an ice cold lake - it was magnificent and we wanted to stay there forever. Our final visit was to Thingvellir National Park which is the only place in the world where the Mid-Atlantic Ridge is visible above sea level.

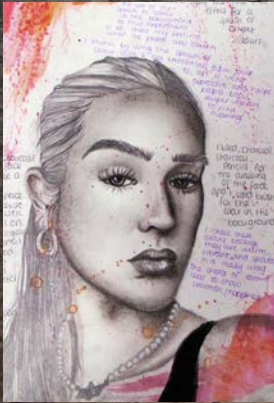


This location is known as 'the bridge between two continents' as it lies on major plate boundaries- the Eurasian and North American along the Mid-Atlantic Ridge.

On behalf of us all, thank you to Mr Douglas, Mrs Brown, Miss Halpin, Mrs Morgan and Mr Power. We enjoyed every second of the trip!

ARTWORK

of the week



Ellie May Johnson (Y13)



Abigail Howarth (Y11)



Isabelle Jones (Y11)



Amelia Wright (Y12)



Isobel Oakes (Y13)

CONGRATULATIONS

Well done to budding scientist **Toby Ranson** in Y13, who has been awarded a prestigious Silver certificate in Round One of the Royal Society of Chemistry's 54th Annual Olympiad! What a fantastic achievement!

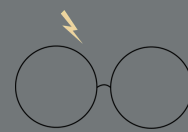


LIFE LESSONS IN ART

Sixth Form Art students recently enjoyed taking part in a life drawing class at Gallery Oldham, where they drew a model in still life and learnt about proportion, as well having the chance to experiment with different techniques - all really useful for their A level studies. Thanks to Gallery Oldham, for organising a great day.



Congratulations to super swimmer **Corey Owens** in Y7 on winning a GOLD medal and becoming County Champion for 200m butterfly!



Special Delivery!

When Y7 were asked to pen letters to inspirational people as part of an English project, Emily Hannibal and Emma Preen decided to write to their favourite author - JK Rowling. The girls were over the moon when they received replies from the world famous writer herself. We can't be sure if the letters arrived by Owl Mail or Royal Mail!



MARCH'S MATHS SUPERSTARS!



GOODBYE & GOOD LUCK SUE!

In February, we said goodbye and thank you to Sue Whitelegge, after over 30 years' service in the CHS catering team.

Sue started working in the school kitchens in 1989, when her son Daniel was just five months old. Sue is looking forward to spending more time walking her dog and getting going with renovations on her new home.

Sue said: *"The past 33 years have gone so fast. It dawned on me that I'd been here a very long time, when former pupils started coming back to the serving hatch as teachers! I will miss the camaraderie of our close-knit team; we work hard but we have also had a lot of fun together."*

Sue will be missed and we wish her all the very best for the future.

FAREWELL TERRY!

At the end of March we said a fond farewell to caretaker Terry Tracey, who hung up his keys for the last time, having been part of the CHS family since 1991.

As a valued member of the Site Team, Terry's time at CHS has been eventful to say the least; dealing with floods, fires and snow drifts - he can't even remember how many windows he's fixed over the years! Terry has worked with seven headteachers, and enjoyed the company of countless members of staff and students. He now plans to spend lots of time with his daughter and two grandchildren in Australia, whom he hasn't seen for two years. Terry said: *"It's as if time stands still when you work in a school because the children never age, I am going to miss them."*

The feeling is mutual Terry - we will all miss you too!



If you have a story to share please contact:
stayintouch@cromptonhouse.org

Crompton House C of E School

Rochdale Road
Shaw, Oldham, OL2 7HS
01706 847 451

www.cromptonhouse.org

