

# STAY IN TOUCH

Crompton House C of E School Newsletter



Issue 35 - February/March 2024



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As a Church of England School, we strive for everyone to know that they are loved by God who longs for us all to experience life in its fullness through Jesus Christ.

## Our Poetry Visit to Oldham Hulme

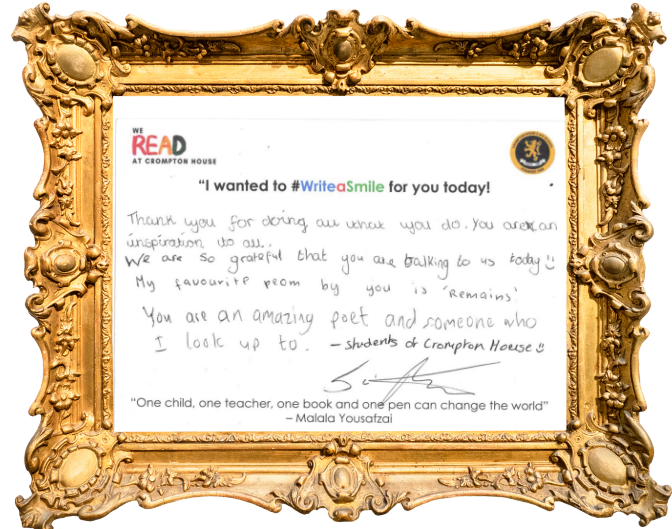
Written by Kaya Read

Crompton House's Poetry Trip to Oldham Hulme Grammar school on the 7th February was definitely a worthwhile experience! Our day consisted of various icebreaker games, poetry analysis, both with an English teacher and even a poet! Finally, we got to speak to our Poet Laureate... Simon Armitage! He gave us an awe-inspiring speech, and even analyzed his infamous poem 'Remains' that we study in Year 10.



We had a chance to make new friends, share ideas and gain an insight into other schools! Crompton House was not the only school there! Many schools across Oldham Borough; including Royton and Crompton Academy and Oldham Academy North attended this trip. Whilst we had some troubles with transport to Oldham Hulme Grammar and back, we all had a wonderful time! Overall, I would definitely recommend other students to take the experience if the opportunity comes up next year!

Many thanks to Mr. Musgrave for organizing this trip and allowing us to have a once-in-a-lifetime experience!



## Duke of Edinburgh Ogden Walk



Our Bronze Duke of Edinburgh team went on their first expedition around Ogden Reservoir in February.

Our spring group were amazing, tackling the cold and muddy terrain, with all of the team making it to the end.

We would like to give a huge shout out to Crompton House staff Mr Courtnell, Mr Holt, Mrs Parker, Miss Hollingsworth, Mrs Greenwood, Mr Mitchell, and our parent volunteers Mr Ransome, Mr Atkins, Miss Martin and Mr Mitchell for their help and support. Over 70 Year 9 students have got to grips with following a route and navigation. We can't wait to feature their next walk, The Pots and Pans, in our next edition of the Stay in Touch. Stay tuned!





# Year 7 Speech Night



Our Year 7s took to the stage for their charity speech night. Working together in groups, students competed in the hopes of winning a donation for their chosen charities. We had some amazing performances which demonstrated great determination, resilience, and of course confidence as they stood in front of a hall filled with staff, parents and carers, all performing to the highest of standards.



Well done to everyone who took part. The winners who each won a £50 donation for their charities were:

**Best introducer** – Benjamin H (Feed Manchester)

**Best main speakers** – Erin K & Jaymee C (WWF)

**Best concluders** – Daniel S (Juvenile Diabetes Research Fund)

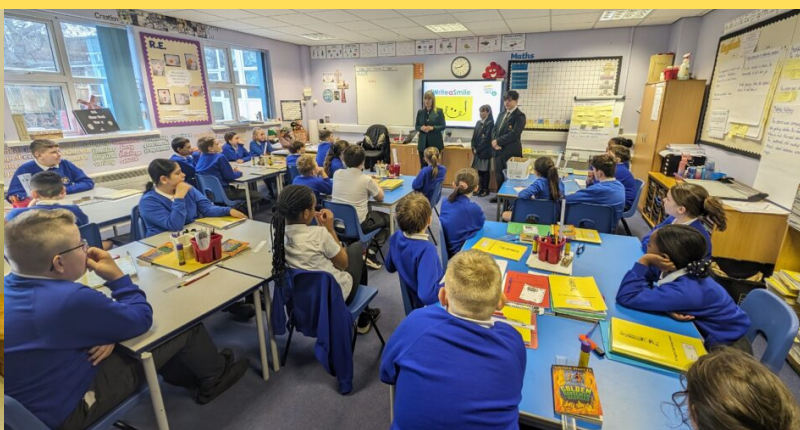
**Overall best group** – Erin K & Jaymee C, Ellie C, Lucy G (WWF)

**Best Teamwork** – Robert M, Samuel C, Oliver S (Manchester Children's Hospital)



## #Our WriteaSmile Students Visit St Hughs

Our partner school St Hughs were visited by our #WriteaSmile team to raise awareness for Mental Health Week 2024. We visited Year 5 & 6 pupils from Mr Carrington and Miss Leggett's class, who were brilliant, as they listened to our ambassador's Kaya and Poppy share the #WriteaSmile story. Discussed was the idea behind the #WriteaSmile creation and the places we have visited, including Oldham Hospital and Newman RC College. Pupils were given completed WriteaSmile cards which contained a joke or poem and in return we received some wonderfully written cards of our own before we left!





# LGBTQ+ Month

At Crompton House School

By Mrs Hollin



LGBTQ+ History Month is a UK wide event that takes place throughout February. As a school proud to be working towards the Rainbow Flag Award, Crompton House is committed to building an inclusive environment, where everyone belongs. Our pupils took part in a range of activities this month.

We kicked off the celebrations in our first Worship assembly, focusing on why we celebrate LGBTQ+ History Month and this year's theme of #Underthescope, which celebrates key LGBTQ+ figures past and present, who have made significant contributions to Medicine and Science.

We were also very lucky to have some key visitors in school, including Manchester Storm elite ice hockey players Zach Sullivan and Michael Korol for a Q&A session. Zach is the first and only openly LGBTQ+ ice hockey player in the world and a Stonewall Champion.

Year 9 and 10 attended a talk from the youth writer Josh Silver. Josh is an LGBTQ author from Manchester, trained at RADA and has performed in the West End. He changed careers from mental health nursing to being a writer. His book Happy Head was awarded the Amazon best YA book of 2023 and is nominated for the 2024 Carnegie Award. His next book comes out in May and he is just finishing his third. Josh said the following about our school:

*"It was a real genuine pleasure to be at Crompton House. Not only did I feel immediately welcomed by the lovely reception staff, but every staff member I met went beyond to make me feel welcomed. Obviously the brilliant Claire Cullen proving that librarians are vital to young people having access to varied points of view through books, and her passion is infectious."*

*"Sometimes I am scared as an LGBT author coming into church schools. However at Crompton House I felt an active push towards inclusivity from all staff. The tone has been set by you all - as it should be - and I was so pleased and grateful. Often schools will say they are inclusive to tick boxes - but you are doing the real work. The kids were respectful and listened. This is a big achievement believe me - it has sadly not always been the case".*

Our Pride Group also received a visit from Father Paul on Queer Theology and what it means to be LGBTQ+ and a Christian in today's world. Revered Bec also covered a Tuesday Chat on LOVE and the many forms this can take.

Finally, year 7 wrote rainbow positive messages of hope and support to LGBTQ+ people struggling with their sexuality or gender identity. These will be made into a rainbow display and will be proudly pinned up in our school. Thank you to everyone involved in the organisation and participation of these events!





# Land of Fire and Ice – Y11 Geography trip to Iceland

WRITTEN BY CAIN ANDREWS AND JENNY WRIGLE



In February we went on our Year 11 geography trip to Iceland. On the morning of our trip, we learned that a volcano close by to the airport had erupted, which made for a once in a lifetime opportunity to see an erupting volcano live, directly from the plane. Before settling at our hotel on the first night, we visited natural mud pools, which is when we all realised that it was, in fact, very cold.

After some traditional Icelandic food and a good night's rest, we were all prepared for our first full day. First, we walked up Sólheimajökull Glacier, which was an amazing experience, with the help of guides who were keen to tell us about the history, and the challenges that the glacier will face in the future. We then visited the stunning Skógafoss and Seljalandsfoss waterfalls, and the Black Sand Beach, which were all truly unique experiences.

Over the course of the weekend, we also toured the Golden Circle, which consists of the Gullfoss Waterfall, Þingvellir National Park, and a natural geyser. Due to the volcanic eruption on the day we arrived in Iceland, our originally planned destination, the Blue Lagoon, was closed, so we instead visited the Secret Lagoon, which was a perfect way to spend our last day. We then explored the centre of Reykjavík, the capital of Iceland, where we shopped for souvenirs, and were treated to a meal in the Hamburger Factory, which ended our day perfectly. After having some time to reflect on the trip, we would like to say how grateful we are to Mr Douglas and the team of teachers for giving us the opportunity to see such a beautiful county.

It truly was an incredible experience!



## Daniel Competes in U18s European Masters



Year 12 Sixth Form student Daniel Melling played in the Golf U18 European Masters at La Manga Golf Club, Murcia, Spain from the 16th – 18th February.

Daniel is no stranger to the spotlight having won his first major trophy at the age of 11. He was also crowned Lancashire Schools' Under 16's golf champion two years ago.

This time around he competed against competitors across the UK. Despite not finishing in a medal position we are all incredibly proud of Daniel and wish him all of the best in his future endeavours.





# Fabulous World Book Day

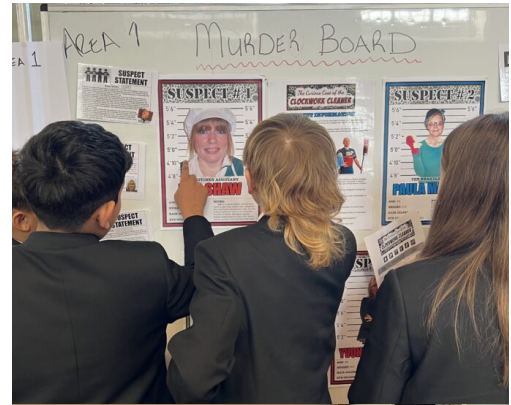


On the 7th March we celebrated World Book Day.

In our wonderfully decorated library, a murder mystery was set up for library lessons by Mrs Cullen. The sessions worked great! The aim was for students to work in groups, visiting different locations in the library, to gather clues on which of our three staff members had committed a murder.

We also had a drop everything and read, followed by our World Book Day video which was played in the background. You can see our video by clicking this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rltRqdilsas>

What a fantastic day everyone had. Well done to those who came into school dressed up. You all looked great! And, of course, a huge thankyou to Mrs Cullen, our Librarian, who worked tirelessly on setting up the library for the day and in organising the activities.



## Macbeth Trip



Our Year 11 students went to see Shakespeare's play Macbeth at the Middleton Arena on the 29th February. Thank you to everyone involved in this trip.



## Science With Brian Cox

It was also an exciting month for a small group of Sixth Formers who went to see An Evening with Professor Brian Cox at the Queen Elizabeth Hall in Oldham with Crompton House staff. The evening had Brian discussing scientific subject matter on black holes and the nature of space time.



## Guardians of The Galaxy

Our music department held a Guardians of The Galaxy Film Music evening last month. It was great to see such a turn out from our parents and carers. We want to thank every one of you for making the night special for our students. And of course, well done to all of our performers.





# School Council Making a Difference

By Jack Kenworthy



Towards the very beginning of this academic year, the school council focussed on solving environmental issues found within school. With the increasing ecological consciousness amongst the younger generation, it was incredibly pleasing to see the school council (who all possess a shared ambition) put their ideas into action. One of the major issues we conquered was the lack of recycling, we promptly acted on this by introducing specialised recycling bins around the school which have so far proven to be a positive addition.

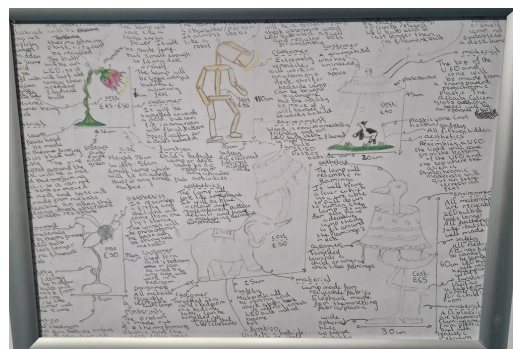
As the academic year progressed, we drew our attention to reworking Crompton House's rewards system, which one may agree was in need of a reformation. In partnership with Mr Deane, we worked to improve rewards by gathering feedback about last year's newly launched rewards trip. In addition to this, we also collected student's suggestions for other possible rewards to introduce in the future.

Throughout the course of this school year, the council was also visited by different members of staff to discuss topics which held a great relevance to school life. Miss Hollin from the MFL department initiated talks about diversity within Crompton House and her Diversity Group which specialises in promoting inclusivity within our school. Within the same meeting, Mr Williams from the Drama department discussed his Cultural Ambassadors initiative which are a group of dedicated students also working towards inclusivity. Similarly to this, Mr Holt also paid us a visit in December to reinforce our school values of loving God, caring for each other and achieving excellence.

In the future, I am looking forward to seeing the council continue to grow and make an even bigger positive impact on school life. In order to grow student voice within our school, I have also been in discussion with Miss Clough in order to welcome Sixth Formers into the council next year. I would also lastly like to give my thanks to members of the School Council for contributing their wonderful ideas this year and Miss Clough who selflessly gives up her time to grant students the opportunity to share their opinions and have a voice within CHS.

## *Designers of The Month*

**In Design Technology our designers of the month for February were: Ava Mayers-Mcgreevy and Ava Finnerty. Well done!**





# Year 12 Careers Event

Our Year 12 students went to Manchester Central for the ucas online exhibition in March. It was an amazing opportunity to find out about different universities, apprenticeships and employers for their time after Crompton House Sixth Form .



## Our Red Nose Day 2024

On Friday 15th March our school came together to raise money for red nose day 2024. Organised by our Sixth Form student management team there was a number of different activities which took place throughout the school. Outside the Milne picnic area a cake sale took place, on the mugga a sponge the teacher brought tears of joy to our students. Thankyou to Mrs Pannel, Mr Smith, Mr Arnold and our sixthformers. We raised an amazing £460.11. Fabulous work everyone!



## LIBRARY READS- WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

RECOMMENDED BY MRS CULLEN - FIND THEM IN THE LIBRARY OR ON SORA...





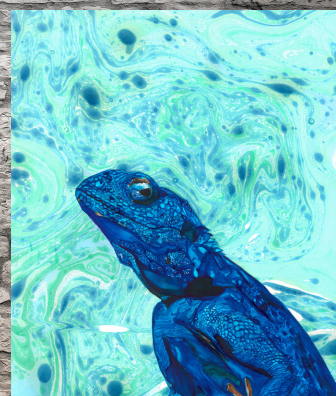
# ARTWORK *of the week*



Ruby D (Year 10)



Lily K (Year 11)



Millie H (Year 12)

## CHS Pi Competition

Thursday 14th March was pi day! The Maths department ran a competition to see which student could recite the most digits of pi. Scarlett Hegarty is the 2024 champion with an impressive 102 digits. Well done Scarlett!



**Crompton House  
PTFA  
Plant Sale**

Orders by 27th March

See Parent mail  
for information

## PTFA Spring Draw

Our winners of the PTFA Spring Cash Draw were

1st Prize £300 - Eva Parker

2nd Prize £200 - Anabelle Chadderton

3rd Prize - £100 - Kian Frost



If you have a story to share please contact:  
[stayintouch@cromptonhouse.org](mailto:stayintouch@cromptonhouse.org)

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