

CROSSHILL NEWS



**Crosshill
SCHOOL**

Prepare and flourish

WINTER 2023

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Hello everyone and welcome to the winter edition of our newsletter. This term has flown by since coming back in September and I have been blown away with all the wonderful work and effort that our Crosshill students have demonstrated, It makes me very proud to be Executive Headteacher at Crosshill.

Our new extension opened in September, as you can see below, and this has become an integral part of the school, giving us that additional room we need for our growing pupil numbers and the specialist spaces to offer the best provision we possibly can for our students. The life skills room in particular has been a huge hit and is helping us to teach our students those essential life skills they'll need going forward to prepare them for work and life.

I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas break and I look forward to welcoming students and staff back in the new year.

Lidia Gardner, Executive Headteacher

NEW BUILDING WELCOMES STUDENTS

Our much awaited new extension opened its doors to students and staff when they returned in September. The £1 million investment into the new school facility has given us four new classrooms, an additional playground, a new safeguarding office and an amazing life skills room.

Life skills are an integral part of the curriculum here at Crosshill so that we can help our students to become more independent and confident when they eventually leave us. The life skills room has been specially adapted so that it's suitable for all of our students and it's been a huge hit so far, both with students and staff. The new building has provided us with the space we need for our students to grow and flourish.





POST 16 UPDATE

Our post 16 students have been so busy this term, wowing us with their progress and attitude to learning.

They have spent a lot of time out in the community, learning vital independence and life skills to help prepare them for adulthood and have been involved in a wide range of charitable initiatives.

As part of their enterprise club, the students made lots of gifts to sell at their pop up stall on Blackburn Market, which was a great hit with shoppers. They also spent lots of time at Audley Sports Centre where they went litter picking as part of their Duke of Edinburgh Award.

A highlight for us was their volunteering work with Benefit Mankind, a UK based aid relief charity. The students helped to pack food parcels for those in need and winter care packs for the homeless. Keep up the good work guys, we're so proud of you!



HELP WITH FOOD COSTS

If, like many people, you are struggling with rising food costs, then there are a number of initiatives across the borough that you can access for help.

From Tuesday 2 Jan to Friday 5 Jan the family hubs in Blackburn with Darwen are offering free lunches from 11.30am-1pm. You just need to phone 01254 585000 to register for them. The hub locations are: Audley Children's Centre, Family Hub Little Harwood, Family Hub Shadsworth, Family Hub Darwen, Highercroft Children's Centre, Hancock Street Children's Centre and Family Hub Livesey.

The BwD Food Club also provides highly subsidised food boxes available to Blackburn with Darwen residents, delivered weekly to your local community hub. You can get £4 or £6 boxes that contain £30-£40 worth of food. To order a box call 01254 291271 or email sams@cbpartners.org. There is also the [Blackburn Foodbank](#) and [Darwen Food Larder](#) to help with emergency food needs.

BWD FOOD CLUB

HIGHLY SUBSIDISED
FOOD BOXES
AVAILABLE TO BWD
RESIDENTS DELIVERED
WEEKLY TO YOUR
LOCAL COMMUNITY
HUB



£4 or £6 boxes containing £30-£40 of food

To order your box or for further information please contact Community and Business Partners. Your nearest hub and collection time is.

01254 291271

sams@cbpartners.org





CROSSHILL CHRISTMAS FAIR

Our annual Christmas fair was a huge success again this year and we want to say a big thank you to all those who came along, as well as the many businesses and parents who donated prizes.

Both staff and students worked so hard preparing for the event and turning our school into a winter wonderland - I'm sure you'll agree they did an amazing job.

With your help we raised over £1300, we can't thank you all enough for your generosity!



NAME OUR NEWSLETTER

We still don't have a name for our newsletter and think there must be something more exciting than Crosshill News! Can you think of a name? If so, please email your suggestion to sobrien@championtrust.co.uk and we'll pick our favourite for the next edition.

INSTAGRAM

We have a new Instagram account for Crosshill School so if you use Instagram we would love you to follow us. Our username is @crosshillschool1.



READING APLENTY FOR OUR YEAR 8 STUDENTS

Our year 8 semi formal class visited Blackburn Library this term. The children all signed up to the library and got their own library cards. They had a great time exploring the library, asking the librarians questions and then they got to loan a book of their choice.

Following this, they then visited Darwen Library too, where they returned their books and got to ask the librarians lots of questions about choosing books. Thank you so much to the library staff who made them feel so welcome.





SNOW IS FALLING



Our residential trip to Water Park Activity Centre took an unexpected turn this year when we got snowed in! The snow came thick and heavy, as you can see in the picture, so we altered some activities and students had a great time having snowball fights and sledging on plastic bags.

We also did some walking and went on a boat and then came back for fantastic food and hot chocolate whilst we played board games. It was such good fun.

Despite the disruption to our schedule, the students were fantastic and took it all in their stride. They were a real credit to Crosshill.

We must say a big thank you to the staff at the centre who dug out the buses and cleared the road, as well as making sure we set off after a hearty breakfast, armed with sandwiches and cakes. It's certainly an experience none of us will forget!



GET IN TOUCH



This newsletter is for you as a parent, carer or supporter of Crosshill School. If there's anything that you'd like to see in a future edition then please do get in touch as we'd love to hear from you.

You can email Stacy, our Marketing Officer, on sobrien@championtrust.co.uk with any ideas or suggestions you may have.

We hope you have a wonderful Christmas break and can't wait to welcome students back in January.

MINCE PIES ARE ON THE MENU



Our year nine students took full advantage of our new life skills room this week when they spent the morning baking mince pies. They learnt how to make sweet shortcrust pastry and then had great fun making their own mince pies. They weren't as keen on the washing up and cleaning after though but still got stuck in tidying up for the next group of students to go in.

