

CROSSHILL NEWS



**Crosshill
School**

Prepare and flourish

JULY 2025

HELLO & WELCOME

Dear parents and carers

As we approach the end of the summer term I want to take the opportunity to continue to share my thanks and gratitude to the amazing staff team that we have at Crosshill. This term has been a busy one with the team working hard to ensure varied learning opportunities for our learners. This has included Careers Week, educational visits to London, sports tournaments and community visits.

This term has also been an opportunity for us to share with staff curriculum adaptations and there are lots of building updates for the next academic year underway. This continues to be a very exciting time for Crosshill, we are working hard to ensure that learners here are prepared, to enable them to flourish. I am incredibly proud to be headteacher and want to say a huge well done to our amazing students for all of their achievements this term and year. I would also like to take this opportunity to wish you all a restful summer break and we will see students in September.

Best wishes

Nicola Pemberton - Headteacher



FOND FAREWELL MRS HADFIELD

This term we bid farewell to our Assistant Headteacher and SENCo, Mrs Rachel Hadfield.

Rachel started 18 years ago as the lead in Science and was later promoted to SENCo and then Assistant Headteacher.

She worked tirelessly, under ever challenging circumstances, to ensure that our children and young people with SEND had the best possible opportunities and outcomes.

Rachel worked with many families over the years and equally, many students, to ensure that barriers to learning were broken down and students could attend to a fulfilling educational offer.

With the most heartfelt well wishes from all staff and students at Crosshill, we hope that Rachel comes to visit us soon and wish her well within her new role at Blackburn with Darwen Council.

Thank you Mrs Hadfield, we will miss you!



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POST 16 UPDATE

This term has been an incredibly busy one, with us saying goodbye to our year 13s and welcoming new students. We have had lots of fun, as well as learning, to make the term a memorable one. Here's a snapshot of what we've been up to.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Some of our students undertook work experience at main school, helping in the dining hall to serve pupils and complete cleaning tasks. They did a fantastic job and were a huge help to staff.

VIRTUAL BABIES

Students have been learning about childcare and as part of this work, they got to practise with virtual babies. Students undertook a variety of tasks, including changing nappies and clothes and putting them in carriers. We were so impressed with them!

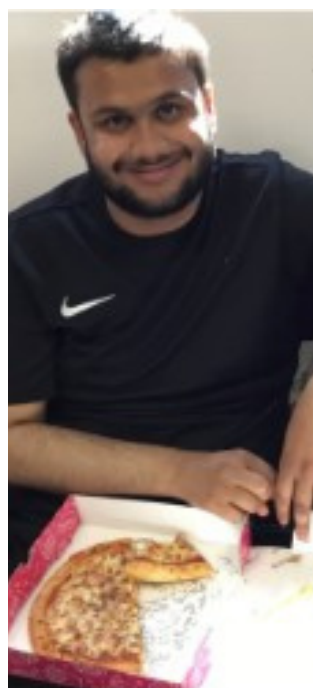
HEALTHY LUNG WORKSHOP

We were visited by staff from the NHS who came to deliver a healthy lung workshop. The team are working to improve awareness of chronic respiratory disease and illness amongst the learning disability community. They taught students all about what affects your lung health and how to keep your lungs healthy.

CELEBRATION WEEK

To mark the end of our year 13s' time at Crosshill, we had a fun filled week of activities. The weather was on our side when we went to Witton Park. Whilst there we had fun playing and had a picnic. We then had a movie afternoon, with popcorn and treats and we visited the local shop for ice cream. As if that wasn't enough, we then went bowling and back to Post 16 for a pizza party. The students and staff alike had such an amazing time and made memories that will last forever.

The week culminated in a special afternoon where we invited families in to school to celebrate their children and gave students presents to remember us by - thank you to Mrs Crowther for making such thoughtful gifts. We are going to miss our year 13s so much!



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STUDENTS & STAFF VISIT LONDON

Earlier this month some of our key stage four students went on an adventure to the Tower of London.

After meeting at 7am at Blackburn train station, both staff and students set off to London via Preston. Once there, they took the tube across London to explore the Tower of London. The highlight was definitely seeing the crown jewels!

Everyone had an amazing day and so many of our students now want to return to London and explore more!



EMERGENCY SERVICES VISIT

In Primary, during our Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) class, we have been learning about people who help us.

We have had visits from the police, fire brigade and ambulance service. Students have loved finding out about how each service helps us and exploring the kit and vehicles that each service uses. Thank you to Mark from the police, Martin from the ambulance service and Darwen firefighters for giving up their time to visit us.



NEW PLAYGROUND

Students in our Primary Inspire class were over the moon with their new playground so decided to write some amazing letters to say thank you.

Along with their teachers, they then walked to the post box and posted them!



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EXPEDITION SUCCESS

In June, eight of our Key Stage 4 students took part in their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award expedition, spending two adventurous days and one night in the great outdoors. During the expedition, students participated in a wide range of activities, including canoeing, team building, axe throwing, archery and first aid. They demonstrated independence by packing their own rucksacks, preparing food, cooking on open stoves and setting up their own tents. They also developed valuable outdoor skills, such as navigation, orienteering and hammock building, all while pushing themselves well outside of their comfort zones.

The group showed outstanding teamwork, resilience and determination as they completed their journey through the countryside. Mr Roberts and Mrs Snape were incredibly proud of their efforts, praising the students' positive attitude and the way they embraced every challenge. Well done to all involved!



STUDENTS GET THEIR DANCING SHOES ON

Both staff and students alike had a wonderful time at this year's prom to celebrate the Year 11 class of 2025.

The prom took place at Stanhill Working Mens Club in Oswaldtwistle and students got their best attire on for a night of partying.

There was a playlist of favourite songs that both staff and students danced to and they tucked in to a delicious buffet too.

Everyone had a great time and went home with sore feet because they all danced the night away! Thanks to staff for organising the prom and making it a night to remember for our Year 11 leavers.



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CAREERS UPDATE

Careers are an important part of our curriculum offer at Crosshill and students explore employability skills and different career options throughout the year. However, in our secondary and Post 16 provision, we also run a careers fortnight each year. Different year groups focus on different career options:

Year 7 - Retail

Year 8 - Hospitality and health

Year 9 - Manufacturing and construction

Ks4 - Preparation for work, including work experience and Post 16 visits

Ks5 (Post 16) - Preparation for adulthood, including transition to college or the community

This year our students undertook a range of exciting activities during careers fortnight. These included visits to Myerscough and Blackburn College, exploring the local job market with a trip to 1617 coffee shop and Herbert Parkinson textile factory. They also listened to several guest speakers, including a paramedic and a professional chef.

Some of our KS4 students also undertook a work experience placement, either within our school or at local businesses. We are always grateful to those local businesses who provide opportunities for students to gain experience of working within their local area.



FREE UNIFORM

Rummage Rescuers is holding a free school uniform pop-up shop on Saturday 9 August from 10am-2pm. The pop-up shop, which will be at the Thomas Street branch, will have a range of free uniform items for you to take. If you have any clean, preloved uniform that you would like to donate to the shop you can drop it off at 6th floor, Duke Street or at any family hub/children's centre by 31 July 2025.

GET IN TOUCH

If there's anything that you'd like to see in a future edition of this newsletter then please email Stacy, our Marketing and Social Media Officer, on obrien.s@oaklp.co.uk.

We regularly post on Facebook and Instagram too so follow us to keep up to date with school news.

CONTACT US

www.crosshillblackburn.co.uk