



Crookhey Hall
School

Autumn Newsletter

2024 - 2025





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A Message From The Headteacher

Jane Husbands

I am delighted to introduce myself as the Headteacher of Crookhey Hall School, and I want to take this opportunity to say a heartfelt thank you to all the pupils, staff, and families who have given me such a warm welcome since my arrival in September. From my very first day, I have been met with kindness, enthusiasm, and a real sense of community, which has made settling in such a pleasure.

It has been wonderful getting to know the pupils, visiting classrooms, and seeing the fantastic learning taking place across the school. I have been so impressed by the dedication and positivity of both students and staff, and I am so proud to be part of such a supportive and ambitious school environment. We were visited by OFSTED in October and had a positive outcome of GOOD. We have also attained our Leaders In Safeguarding award again in October.

Over the coming weeks and months, I look forward to meeting more of you, learning about the traditions and values that make this school so special, and working together to continue providing the very best education and opportunities for our young people.

This is an exciting journey, and I feel incredibly privileged to be leading Crookhey Hall. I am looking forward to the rest of the year, working alongside staff, pupils, and families to ensure every child achieves their full potential. Here's to a fantastic year ahead!



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Careers

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Careers Support for Year 9 to 11

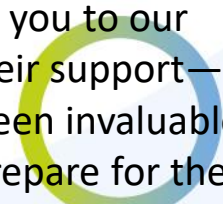
We were delighted to welcome a careers advisor into school for a three-day visit, providing invaluable guidance to our Year 9 to 11 students. During this time, students had the opportunity to take part in one-to-one interviews, where they discussed their future aspirations, explored potential career paths, and received personalised advice on their next steps.

For our Year 11 students, a key focus was on preparing for life after school. College visits were arranged, giving students a chance to experience different learning environments and explore course options suited to their interests and career goals.

Additionally, with the support of the careers advisor, students completed and submitted their college applications, ensuring they are well-prepared for the transition to further education.

This visit was an important step in helping students make informed decisions about their futures. The one-to-one guidance provided them with greater clarity and confidence in choosing their next steps, whether that be college, apprenticeships, or other career pathways.

We are incredibly proud of how engaged and proactive our students have been in planning for their futures. A huge thank you to our careers advisor for their support—this experience has been invaluable in helping students prepare for the opportunities ahead!





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SMSC events

.Genes for Jeans Day was a fantastic event last term, where our school came together to raise money for children with genetic disorders. Everyone took part by wearing their jeans and donating to this important cause.

We had a great response from students and staff, with lots of enthusiasm and generosity. Alongside wearing jeans, we held fun activities, including a cake sale and a raffle, which helped us raise even more money.

Thanks to everyone's support, we were able to make a meaningful contribution to charity, helping to fund research and support for families affected by genetic conditions. It was a wonderful day that showed the kindness and community spirit of our school.

Children in Need Day was a fantastic event last term, where our school came together to raise money for children facing challenges across the UK. Everyone got involved by wearing something spotty and making donations to support this important cause. We had a brilliant response from students and staff, with lots of fun activities throughout the day. Highlights included a bake sale, a sponsored challenge, and a fun dress-up competition, all helping to raise even more money.

Thanks to everyone's generosity, we were able to make a great contribution to the charity, helping to provide support, care, and opportunities for children in need. It was a wonderful day filled with fun, kindness, and community spirit!

Christmas Markets last term were a huge success, with each class running their own stall to raise funds for their class budget next term. This was an exciting entrepreneurial challenge, allowing students to plan, create, and sell their own products.

The market was full of creative and festive stalls, selling handmade crafts, sweet treats, games, and more. Students worked hard to promote their stalls, manage their money, and provide great customer service.

It was fantastic to see everyone getting involved, and the atmosphere was filled with fun and festive cheer. We were also delighted to welcome parents, carers, and external partners to visit the school for the day, making the event even more special.

Each class benefited from their hard work, with the money raised going towards activities and resources for next term. The event was a great way to learn important skills while celebrating the holiday season!

Curriculum news

Class 13's term news



As you can see, we have been getting into the Christmas spirit here, but we have also achieved so much more this term! Our students have been working incredibly hard across all subjects, producing some fantastic pieces of work.

In English, we have been studying *The Firework Maker's Daughter*, with students creating their own missing chapters from the book. Their creativity and storytelling skills have been truly impressive!

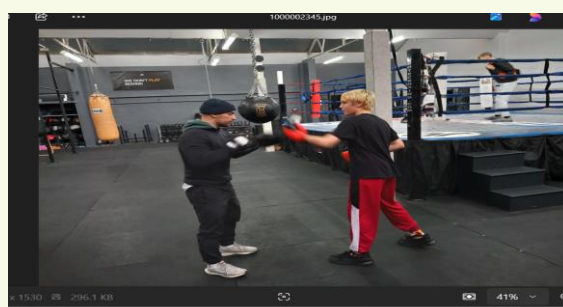
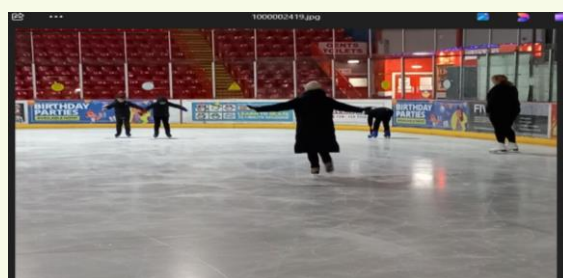
In Citizenship, we have focused on budgeting—an essential life skill. This has been particularly useful as students applied their knowledge to manage their Christmas Market stalls, making informed financial decisions. Science lessons have seen students channel their inner Albert Einstein as they explored the periodic table and different elements. They tackled the challenging concept of balancing chemical reactions and understanding byproducts, producing brilliant work along the way.

Outdoor Education

Our students have had an exciting and action-packed term, taking part in a wide range of activities that have challenged and inspired them. From climbing and boxing to ice skating and more, they have embraced new experiences with enthusiasm and determination.

It has been fantastic to see so many students stepping out of their comfort zones, trying new things, and building their confidence along the way. Whether it was reaching the top of the climbing wall, mastering new boxing techniques, or finding their balance on the ice, each activity provided valuable opportunities for personal growth, teamwork, and resilience.

We are incredibly proud of all the students who pushed themselves and gave their best effort. Their positivity and willingness to take on new challenges have been truly inspiring. Well done to everyone who took part—we look forward to even more exciting opportunities next term!





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Class 3 Learning Highlights

Students have enjoyed engaging lessons across subjects:

- English:** Used humor to craft persuasive letters.
- Maths:** Improved number fact skills through gamified exam revision.
- Science:** Grew crystals to explore changes of state.
- Classical Civilisation:** Designed an Athenian temple using Minecraft.

Spotlight: Class 3's Community Project

Class 3 took on a meaningful project to support the wellbeing of residents at Ashton Manor, a supported accommodation facility. After brainstorming ideas, they voted to bake and deliver two homemade chocolate cakes. This initiative blended academic learning with valuable life skills.

Students applied **numeracy skills** by calculating ingredient quantities and budgeting for supplies. **Literacy skills** were strengthened through reading recipes and writing ingredient lists. The baking process fostered teamwork, patience, and practical learning. The highlight was delivering the cakes in person, where students were met with smiles and gratitude. This experience reinforced kindness, community involvement, and the joy of giving back. A simple act of generosity created a lasting impact, making both the students and residents feel valued.



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