



CASTLE RUSHEN HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents/Carers, Nollick Ghennal!

This term has been very productive, with our Y11s and Y13s doing their mock exams, we celebrated our students' achievements at our annual Awards Evening, our sports teams have been putting their all into their fixtures, and our Y7s have settled in to CRHS school life very well. We are all looking forward to the upcoming festivities.



HEAD HEART HANDS: CHARITY FUNDRAISING THIS TERM

This week we have held a 'Christmas Jumper' week and a non-uniform day, both in aid of **Cruse Bereavement Support - Isle of Man**.

Cruse provides vital support to our young people who have experienced bereavement. Cruse helps by offering a neutral person to offer support and help to process grief, loss and the changes they can bring. As a school, we are hugely grateful to Cruse for this invaluable work.

Our Y7s have been donating to the **Food Bank**, Y8s and KS5 have arranged biscuit boxes for **Southern Befrienders**, Y9s have 150 hand-made cards and biscuit boxes to the **southern care homes** (pictured), and the Christmas Concert refreshments raised funds for **Isle Listen**.



KS5 students who volunteer for **Southern Befrienders** will be doing their last visits before Christmas and have made little sweet bags to give to their befriender.

Events students organised a 'Race for Life' where students were invited to donate £5 to race remote control cars round our indoor track in the school hall. The roar of the crowd could be heard from the Headteacher's office and the event raised over **£500** for the fantastic **Hospice Isle of Man**. Well done to our Events students, thank you to Steve from Scuffs R' Us and Miss Kaye for making it all possible.

SPORTS REPORT

It has been a very successful term for school sport. Our Year 7, 8 and 9 Rugby Teams were crowned champions. Hockey also delivered outstanding results, with Year 7 and Year 10 winning the championships and all hockey teams reaching the finals. The year 7 boys claimed the Cross-Country championship of a very technical course in



Ramsey and our girls football teams have showed strong overall success. We are excited for the Spring term ahead as we transition in the Netball and Football season.

LOST PROPERTY

Lost property will be available to view in the school hall on:

- Mon 22 Dec - 11am-4pm
- Mon 29 Dec - 11am-4pm
- Tues 30 Dec - 11am-4pm
- Friday 2 Jan - 11am-4pm

The school office will be operating with a reduced staff during the Christmas break.



FORTHCOMING 2026 DATES

Year 7	Parents' Evening - Wednesday 10th June 2026
Year 8	Parents' Evening - Wednesday 25th March 2026
Year 9	Parents' Evening - Thursday 22nd January 2026
Year 10	Parents' Evening - Thursday 14th May 2026
Year 11	KS5 Pathways Evening - Thursday 5th March 2026
Events	The School Show - 11-13 February 2026

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STUDENT AMBASSADORS



Congratulations to our 25/26 Ambassadors who have been nominated by staff for their commitment to our school community.

Being an ambassador comes with some responsibility, for example helping to promote the area they represent, making suggestions for improvements from a student perspective or assisting with school events.

The ambassadors received their pins at a recent Ambassadors' Breakfast assembly. They are a credit to the school and are excellent examples to their peers.



CRHS AWARDS EVENING 2025

We were delighted when Mr MacGregor, former teacher of PE, accepted our invitation to speak at the annual CRHS Awards Evening earlier this term.

Chair of Governors, Mrs Katz, opened the event, hailing the achievements of our students and acknowledging their consistent hard work and effort.



Headteacher Mr Winstanley, gave his address, marking a celebration of the 2024/25 academic year, including top A-Level results and an inclusive curriculum.

Excitingly, the speech confirmed that the long-awaited project for a new purpose-built school building is moving forward, with the design team appointed.

Guest of Honour, Mr MacGregor shared his three life lessons for success and personal fulfillment.

"Don't sit in the comfy chair" - avoid the easy option and maintain self-discipline.

"Never look down on anyone unless you're helping them up off the floor" - be kind and treat everyone with dignity.

"Fill your life with experiences, not things" - seek adventure, travel, or voluntary work to create meaningful memories.

For the presentation of awards, over 100 current and former CRHS students proudly made their way to the stage and received their certificates and trophies from Mr MacGregor.



Cristina led the charge after achieving the highest possible grades in all her subjects in her GCSEs. Cristina swept the board winning seven awards, which is testament to the hard work and dedication she puts into her learning.



Members of the cast of Mary Poppins Jr, the much anticipated school show set for February 2026, treated the audience to a superb performance of 'Practically Perfect'.



Matthew, gave a moving trombone recital of Morceau Symphonique by Alexandre Guilmant, accompanied by Mrs Cole.



Finally, we heard from CRHS Head students, Camilla and Issy for the vote of thanks.

This year's Awards Evening was a joyful celebration of just some of the CRHS students who show up each day and put their best foot forward. Congratulations to all!

WORD FROM THE HEAD

A brief housekeeping note - All leave requests (including for sports) must be submitted via the official form for approval. Please note that leave is only granted for exceptional circumstances; any absence without prior formal approval will be marked as unauthorised.

This week Mrs Lamb, a mainstay of the Special Educational Needs team for more than 20 years, sadly retires from CRHS. Many of you will know Mrs Lamb, and some of you may even remember her from your time at school. Mrs Lamb has supported 100s if not 1000s of students through CRHS, and we have been incredibly fortunate to have had her on our team. We wish Mrs Lamb a long and happy retirement.

We also say goodbye to Mrs Laisney, our DT and Art Technician of over 13 years. She has big (steel toe-capped) boots to fill and we wish her every success in her new role.

Before we head into the festivities, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support from home this term. We look forward to the Spring term and building upon the excellent work done so far this year.

Season's Greetings; all the very best for a happy and healthy 2026!

K. Winstanley



CHRISTMAS CONCERT 2025



Well done to our talented performers who brought festive cheer in spades for this year's Christmas Concert!