



CASTLE RUSHEN HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents/Carers and Students,

It is full steam ahead to the summer break and this term our students have given us such a lot to be proud of. Our Y11s and Y13s will now be enjoying the fruits of their labour, with a long summer stretching out ahead of them. Our year 10s have approached their mocks with great determination. Our younger students have been undertaking GL assessments and taking it all in their stride. We recently had our Year 6 transition, and was wonderful seeing our Year 7s lead the way with making them feel welcome. Our Y7s have really found their feet since the start of the academic year and we look forward to welcoming them to Y8.

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UNIFORM

Our updated Uniform Policy will come into effect from September 2026. Please see the new policy available on the [school website](#). As part of this update, students will be permitted to wear their PE kit throughout the school day on their designated PE days.

This change has been carefully considered and is designed to bring a number of benefits. By removing the need for students to change clothes during the school day, we can maximise lesson time, reduce transition periods and remove potential barriers to participation in physical activity, particularly for those who may feel uncomfortable changing in shared spaces. The policy will also provide students with greater comfort and choice, help reduce lost property and ensure a consistently smart and cohesive appearance across the school.

During the recent period of hot weather, students represented the school exceptionally well in their PE kit, demonstrating that it can maintain the high standards of presentation we expect. We are confident that this adjustment will have a positive impact on students' wellbeing, engagement and readiness to learn, and we look forward to introducing the change in September.

STAFFING UPDATE

As the school year draws to a close, we say farewell and thank you to several valued members of staff. In particular, we recognise the outstanding contributions of **Mrs Almond**, who has served CRHS since 2008 in a range of leadership roles, including Assistant Headteacher. Many of our families will have known her kindness and support in her role as Special Educational Needs Coordinator, and her commitment to staff, students and the wider school community has left a lasting legacy. We also wish **Miss Poole** a very happy retirement after almost two decades at CRHS, during which she led History with distinction, developed strong links across the Island's schools and inspiring our students. **Miss Sayle**, who joined us in 2022, has strengthened Modern Foreign Languages and built a vibrant and highly competent department, ensuring a bright future for French and Spanish at GCSE. As she begins her well-earned retirement, we wish her every happiness. We also thank **Mr Townsend** for his contributions in Maths, latterly as Assistant Subject Team Leader, and **Miss Christian** for her contributions in English; both of whom will be great assets in their new schools.



TYNWALD DAY SCHOOLS PARADE

We would like to thank all students who volunteered for the Tynwald Day Parade this year. You represented the school beautifully and made us all very proud! We hope to have such a fantastic turnout next year!

MESSAGE FROM THE SAFEGUARDING TEAM

As the summer holidays begin, we hope our students make the most of the opportunities around them: getting outdoors, staying active, spending time with family and friends, trying something new, and making the most of our beautiful

island. Every day at school we see how much young people thrive when they put their phones away—the real fun begins with conversations, adventures, laughter and shared experiences. Whether children are gaming, chatting with friends or exploring online, please help them stay safe by being kind, thinking before they share, and speaking to a trusted adult if anything doesn't feel right.

A healthy balance of screen time, fresh air, relaxation and adventure can make for a happy and memorable break.

Most importantly, look after one another, show respect for your neighbours and community, and enjoy creating lasting memories. We look forward to hearing all about your summer adventures when you return in September.

Support available over the summer break:



Kooth – www.kooth.com
Isle Listen – www.islelisten.im
Crisis Response – 642860

INTRODUCING OUR HEAD STUDENTS 26/27



Congratulations to Daisy and Matthew on their appointment as Head Students, supported by Deputy Head Students Izzy and Josh.

As part of the selection process, they wrote manifestos, delivered assemblies to their peers, and took part in interviews. At every stage, they impressed the interview panel, comprising the Headteacher, Chair of Governors, and Head of Sixth Form.

All four have already made a strong start in their roles, and we look forward to seeing all they achieve in 2026/27.

DOFE GOLD STUDENTS AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE



Ten recent former students from Castle Rushen High School celebrated achieving their Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award at Buckingham Palace, marking an outstanding achievement for both the students and the school.

Hosted by HRH The Duke of Edinburgh in May, the 75th anniversary celebration brought together thousands of young people to recognise their hard work. DofE Leaders were also invited to attend, making the occasion particularly special, as Mr Watt didn't have the opportunity to collect his own Gold Award.

CRHS continues to make a significant impact within the DofE scheme, reflecting the school's 'Head, Heart and Hand' ethos and helping to develop thoughtful and capable young people who make a positive contribution to their community.

These students are a fantastic example of this, and we offer our sincere congratulations to all involved.



Y7 MATHS CHALLENGE

In June, some of our Year 7 Maths students took part in the all-island Maths Challenge at KWC. Working in 10 mixed-school teams, they tackled a series of problem-solving activities and five increasingly difficult challenge rounds.

The day concluded with an engineering challenge, where teams were tasked with building the tallest free-standing tower using only 30 sheets of A3 paper and sellotape. The students thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

Congratulations to Rollo, who was part of the winning team, and to Ben's team, who finished as runners-up.



Well done to several CRHS students in the **IOM Handball Junior squads** who recently competed in Wolverhampton, with the U14 boys taking second place in England.

ATHLETICS SUCCESS

Congratulations to Year 9 students Taylor and Chris, who performed superbly at the English Schools Athletics Championships as part of Team IOM Schools.

Taylor secured 2nd place in the Boys' 300m with a personal best time of 35.74 seconds, while Chris finished 5th in the Intermediate Boys' Discus with an impressive throw of 41.36m.

It is fantastic to see CRHS students performing so well on the national stage.



JUNIOR TYNWALD

Y12 students learned from the island's representatives in Junior Tynwald earlier this month. They participated extremely well throughout the day and gaining a real insight into Tynwald.



SPECIAL OLYMPICS TRIUMPHS

Congratulations to James who travelled to Gibraltar for the 2026 Special Olympics. On the track he came 4th in the 200m, took a Bronze medal in the 100m, and a Silver in the Team Relay event!

In the pool he came 2nd in the 100m Freestyle, 2nd in the 50m Freestyle, and finally a GOLD medal in the Team Relay. James entered the water on the last leg 3m behind those in first, but powered through to claim 1st place for Team IOM! James performance was outstanding and even more impressive given he was competing against adults.



SPORTS REPORT



It has been a brilliant term for sport at CRHS. Our Year 7 girls' and boys' cricket teams finished the season unbeaten, while the Year 8 girls and Year 9 boys were crowned Cricket Shield winners. We also had fantastic success at the Interschools Athletics Championships, with the Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 boys' teams and the Year 7 girls' team all finishing top of the pile. Year 8 students also took part in an exciting in-house sprint triathlon, giving them the chance to experience a new type of event and challenge themselves across different disciplines. Congratulations to all the students who stepped up and took part on the day (photo above).

Sports Day was once again one of the highlights of the term, with students battling for points across a full programme of track and field events. Those not competing played their part from the sidelines, creating a brilliant atmosphere as they cheered on their houses throughout the day. After a closely fought competition, Langness were crowned Sports Day champions yet again! Last Friday, we rounded off the term with our annual Sports Awards, celebrating the hard work, progress and achievements of our students. Well done to everyone who has taken part and represented CRHS so proudly! **#werccr**

SKILLS CENTRE 3 SEE KING CHARLES III



Last week some of our students from our Specialist Provision Centre went to see King Charles arriving at the Tynwald Legislative Buildings for his first official visit as monarch and Lord of Mann. They had great fun and proudly flew the Manx flag!



Look at the smiles from our Performing Arts students after an incredible **Summer Concert**. Well done to all!



Thank you to all who joined us for the **Art and Design Open Evening**. Our hugely talented students did not disappoint! ★★★★★

JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT: TEAM RE-VITALIZE Q+A



Earlier this month, team Re-Vitalize, Danny, Aiden, Riley, Matthew and Robbie, won the Junior Achievement Delta Airlines Sustainable Innovation Award at the GEN-E 2026 Festival in Riga, Latvia, for their fantastic soil enhancer, 'Ecogrow'. Fresh from the experience, the team have done a little Q+A about their journey.



1. What new knowledge did you gain from taking part in the competition and how has this helped you grow as a person?

The JA Company Programme gave us invaluable experience in public speaking, pitching and communicating confidently. These skills have helped us grow both personally and professionally.

2. What was the most challenging part of the experience and how did you overcome it?

Balancing Re-Vitalize with exams and weekend jobs was challenging. We overcame this by prioritising tasks, sharing the workload and managing our time effectively.

3. What did you enjoy most about competing at a European level?

We enjoyed experiencing such a high level of competition, discovering innovative business ideas and networking with like-minded students from across Europe.

4. What transferable skills did you develop that will equip you for your next steps?

Honestly too many to list, we would only bore you. All we can say is this programme is invaluable to students and we would highly recommend your child take part in it.

5. Has this experience helped clarify your thoughts on your future ambitions?

Definitely. Having already experienced building a business, our whole team is now more open to entrepreneurship because starting a company feels far less daunting.

6. What advice would you give to younger students who are thinking about trying something new or stepping outside their comfort zone?

Adopt a "what's the worst that could happen?" mindset. Embarrassment and failure are temporary, but the confidence and lessons gained from leaving your comfort zone can last a lifetime.

- Team Re-Vitalize

This is just a small snapshot at the past few weeks. Well done to our students for a fantastic 25/26 academic year. We look forward to seeing you all rested and ready to learn on **Thursday 3rd September!** *K. Winstanley*