



Crossdale News - 30th January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our Crossdale News - we hope that you enjoy reading our newsletter; a communication for you with key messages and dates from school.

We have had a lovely week meeting some new fluffy friends; the children have loved seeing the chicks hatch and develop!

We have lots of events coming up over the next few weeks, so please take a look at the information below to find out more!

Please remember to keep checking our [school website](#), as this is where you should be able to find answers to many of the questions you may have. All newsletters can be found on our school website, in the '[News and Events](#)' section.

Best Wishes,

Mr. Cresswell and Miss Seedhouse

Included in this week's edition:

- **Meet our fluffy visitors!**
- **Young Voices Choir**

- **Children's Mental Health Week**
- **Safer Internet Day**
- **Book Week**
- **Science Week**
- **Smart Watches**
- **Farewell to our lovely cook, Adama!**
- **Challenge Tree Library - Amazon Wishlist!**
- **Safeguarding Tips**
- **Rushcliffe Family Hub**
- **Sporting Events**
- **Crossdale PTA**
- **Celebrations - Stamp chart filler stars & Roll of Honour**
- **Upcoming Events**

 Meet our fluffy visitors!



It has been a very exciting week at school with the arrival of our chick eggs on Tuesday. The children watched eagerly, and the excitement grew even more on Wednesday morning when, just after 9am, the very first chick hatched!

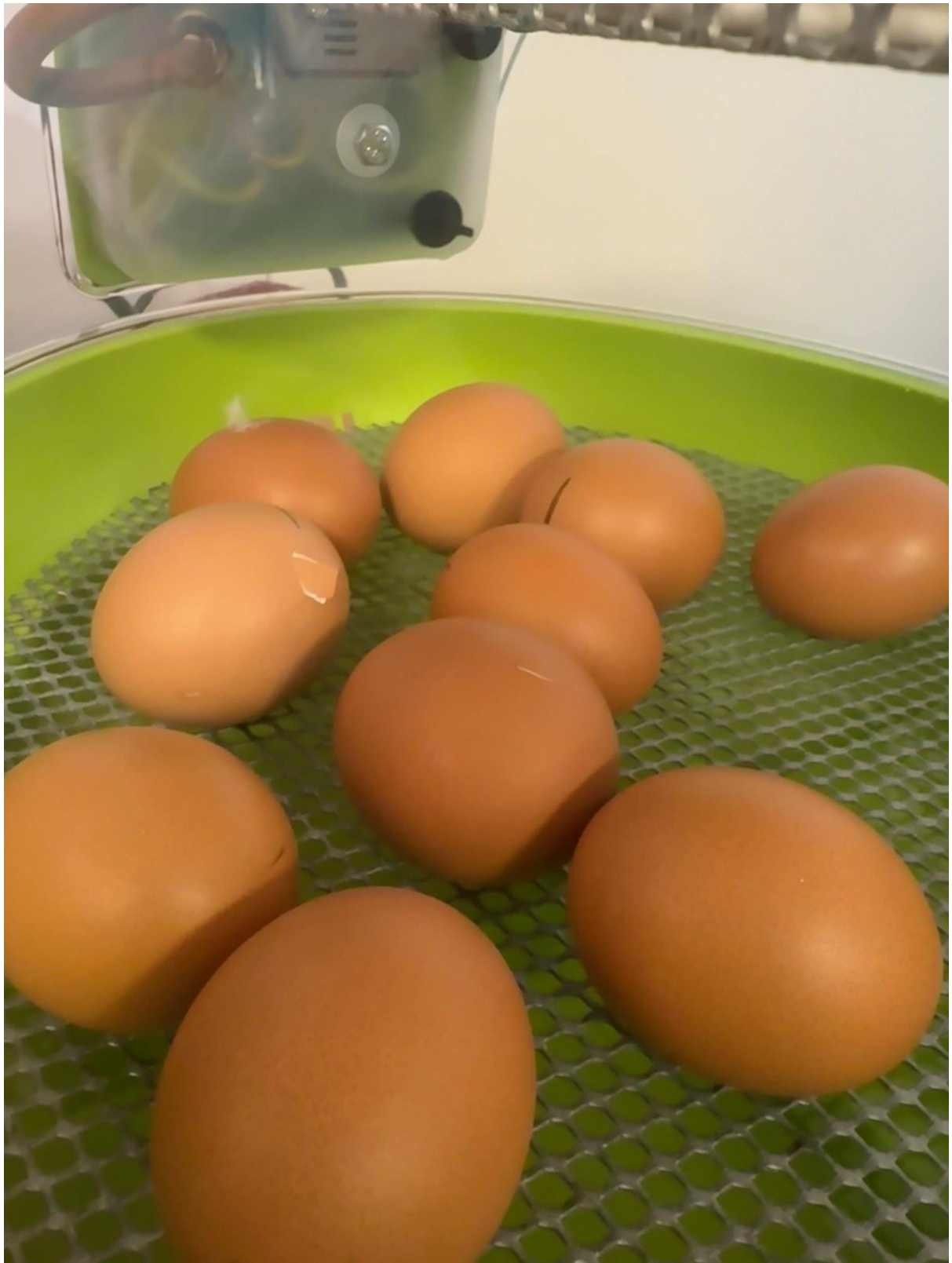
Over the next day and a half, six more chicks joined us, and on Thursday evening our final little arrival made an appearance. We are now the proud caretakers of eight fluffy, noisy, and very energetic chicks who aren't afraid to make themselves heard!

The children have absolutely loved visiting the chicks, observing how quickly they change, and talking about the different stages of their development. These real-life learning moments have sparked curiosity, thoughtful questions, and lots of smiles.

Next week, the children will have the opportunity to see the chicks even more closely, and some may even have the chance to gently hold them. This hands-on experience will help them learn about life cycles, care and responsibility, and the wonders of nature.

We can't wait to see how the chicks continue to grow over the coming days!

If families would like to make a voluntary contribution toward the project, this can be done through Arbour. Your support helps us continue offering enriching, hands-on learning experiences like this one.





























Young Voices Choir

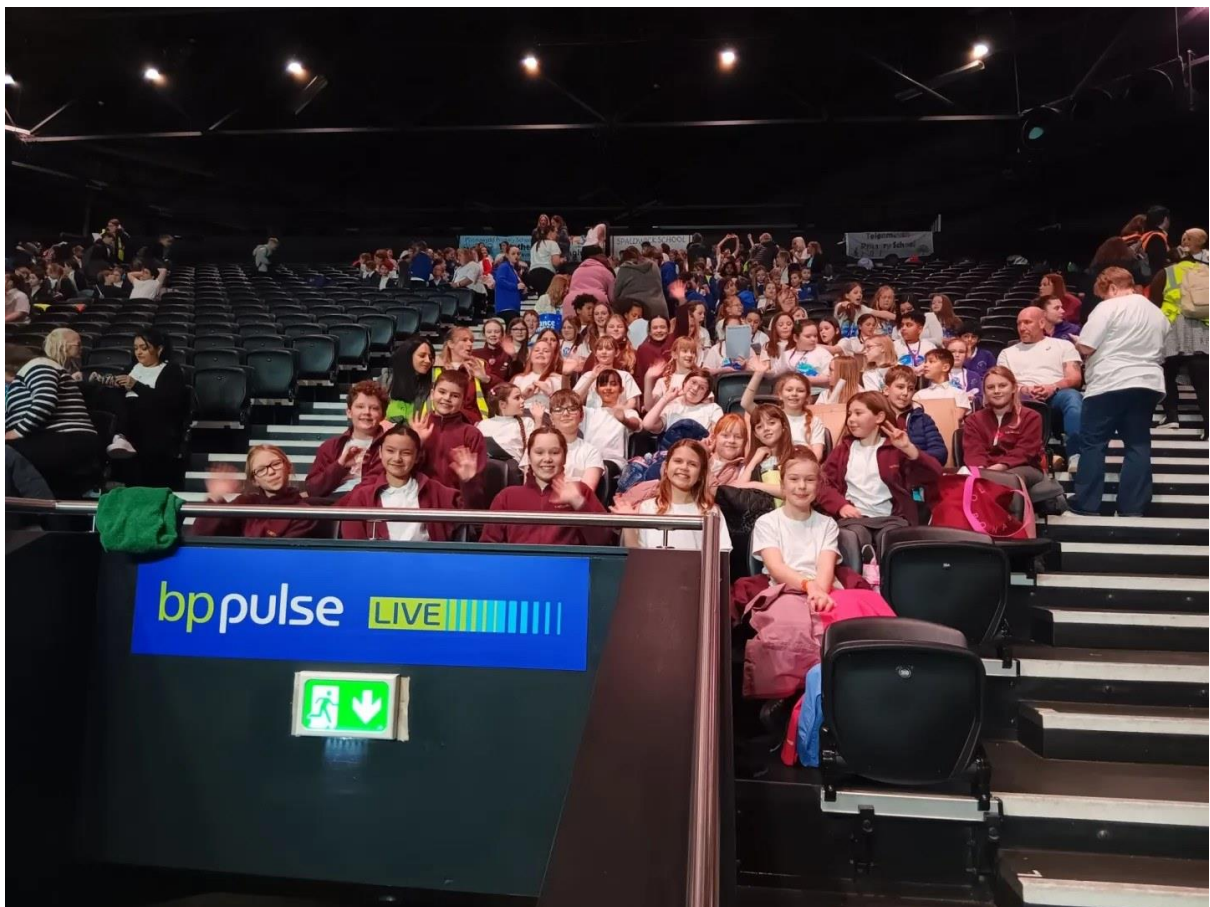


On Friday 16th January, our Year 5 and Year 6 choir representatives travelled to Birmingham to take part in the incredible Young Voices concert. The children behaved beautifully throughout the day, representing Crossdale with enthusiasm, maturity and real joy.

They worked exceptionally hard to learn all the songs and their confidence, teamwork and love of singing shone through as they joined thousands of other pupils in creating an unforgettable musical experience. The atmosphere was inspiring, and the children were captivated from start to finish.

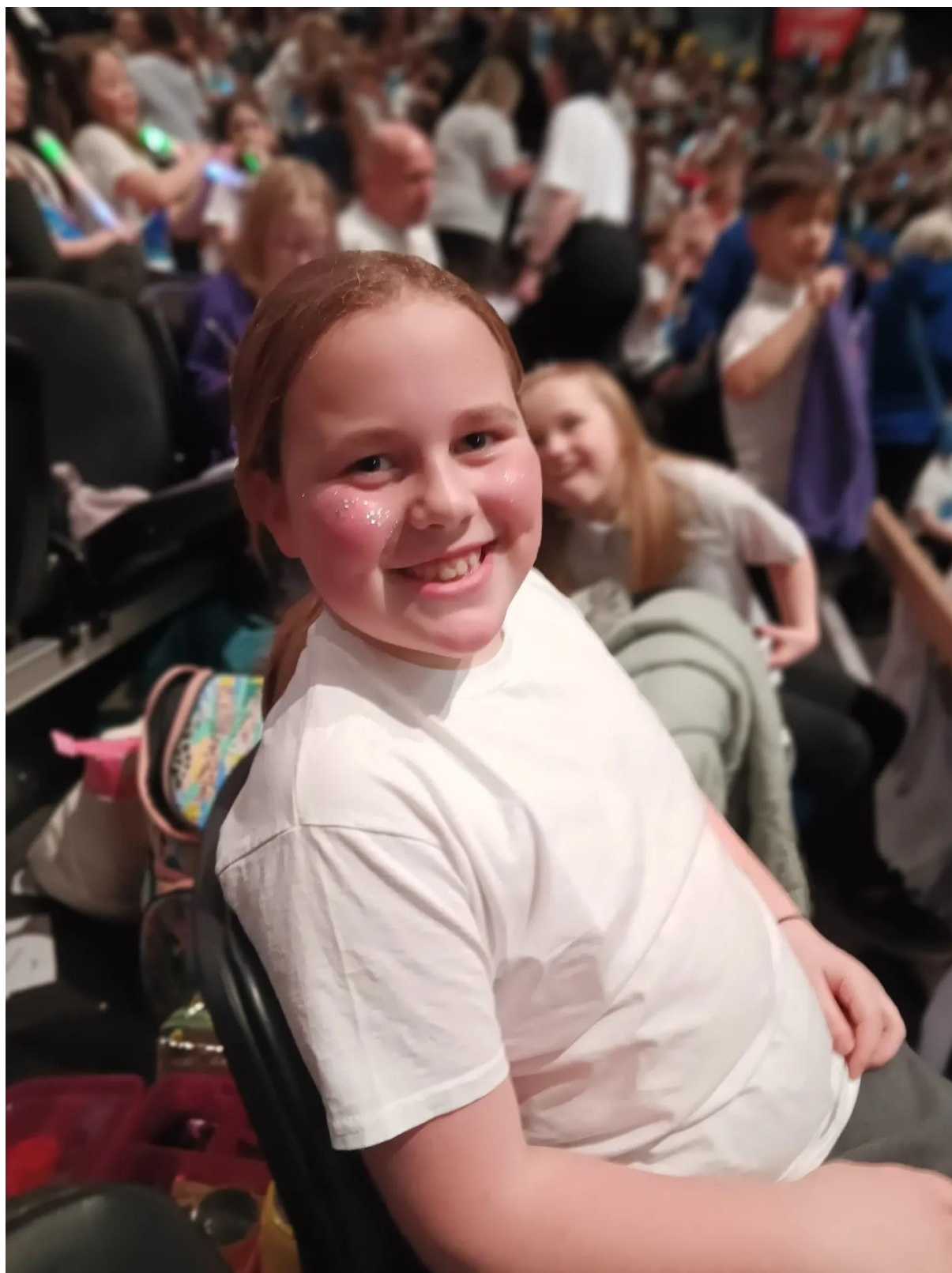
It was certainly a long and tiring day, but the children's positivity made it a wonderful and memorable one for everyone involved.

Well done, Base Three Crossdale Choir - you were amazing!























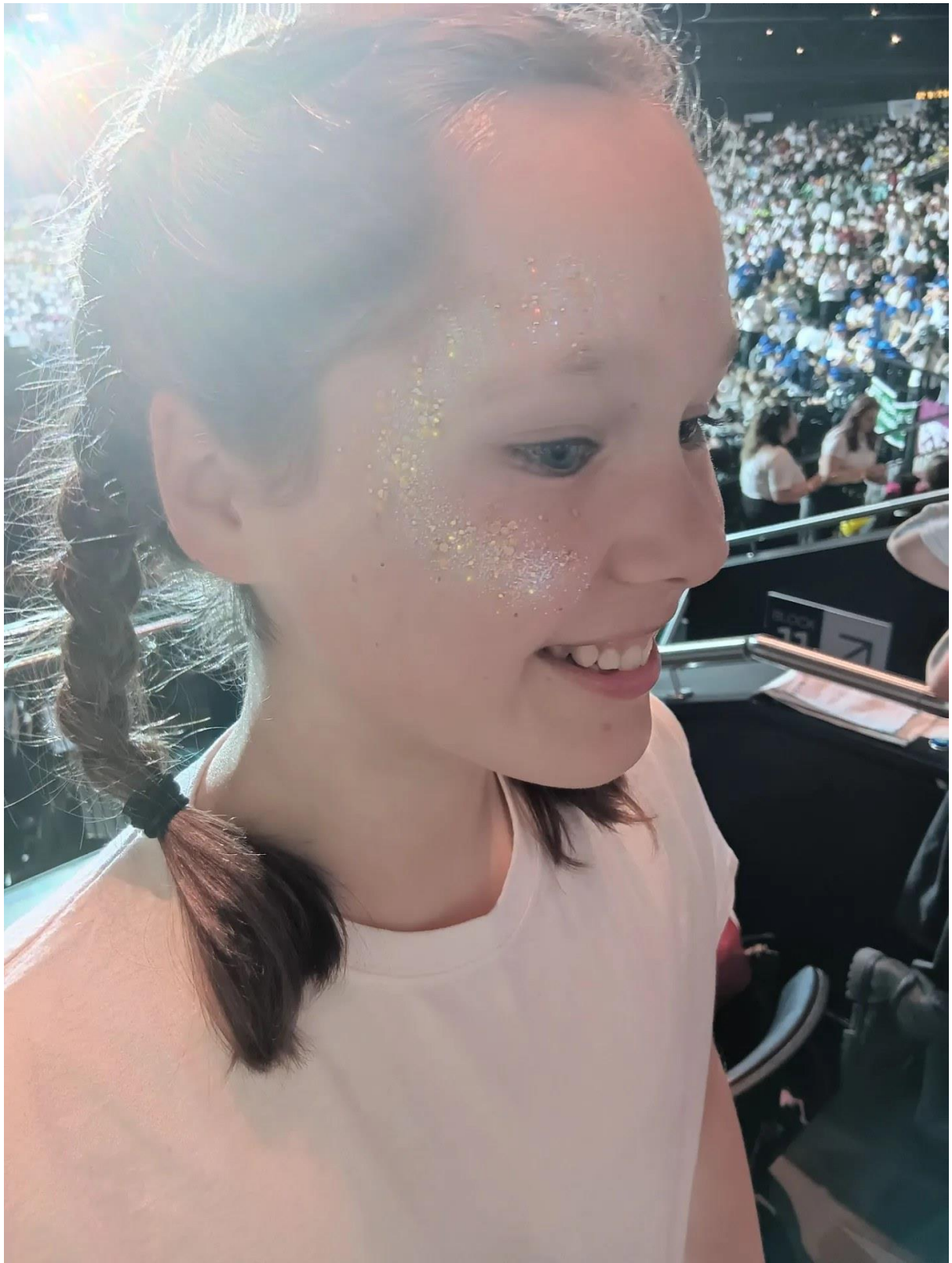












































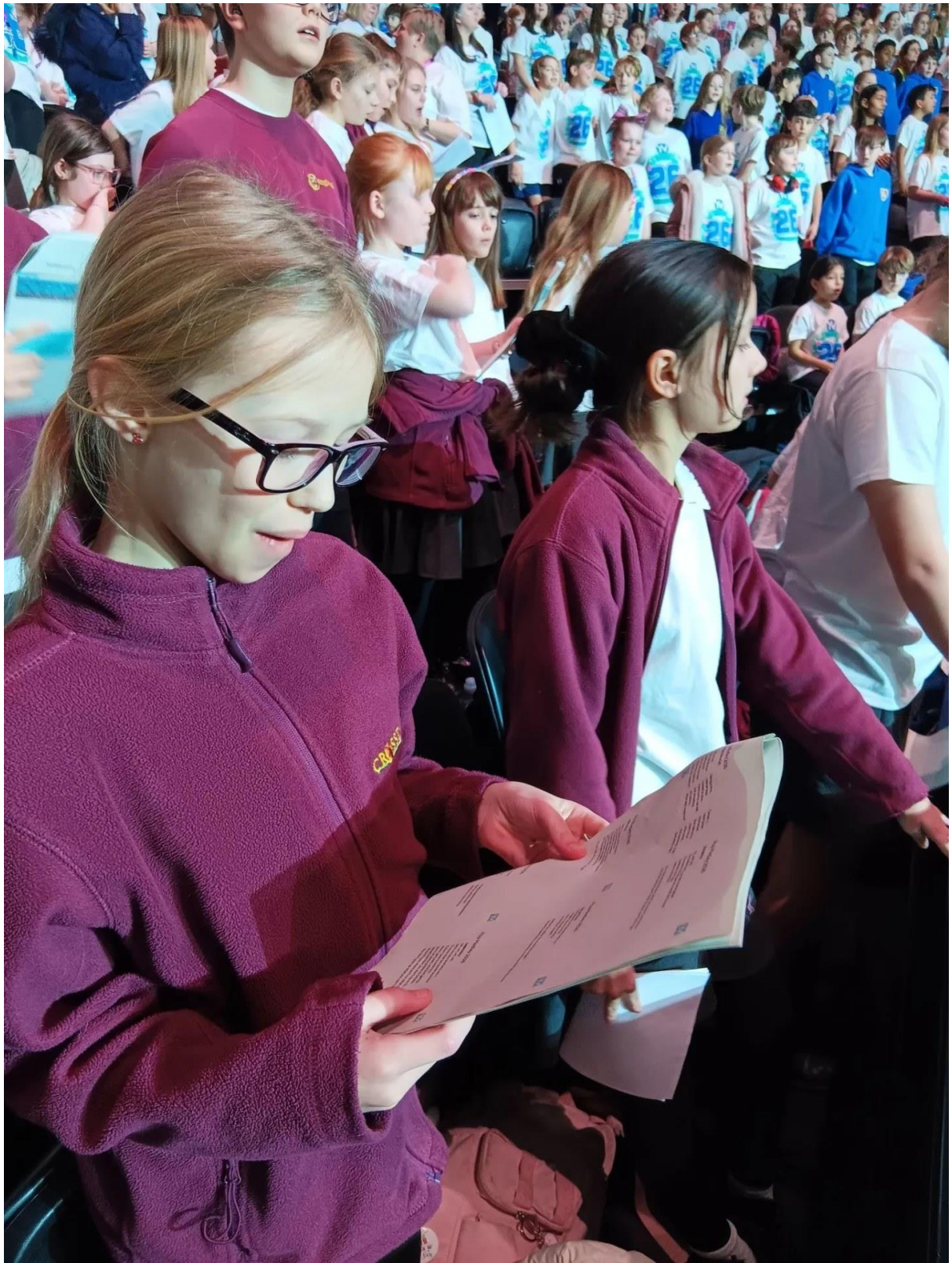
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Children's Mental Health Week



We are pleased to share that our school will once again be supporting Children's Mental Health Week, which takes place from 9–15 February 2026. This national event is organised by the charity Place2Be and aims to ensure that no child or young person has to face a mental health challenge alone.

This year's theme is "This Is My Place", encouraging children to explore the idea of belonging and to think about the people, spaces, and activities that help them feel safe, supported, and valued.

At school, we believe that helping children learn about good mental health is just as important as supporting their academic progress. Throughout the week, each class will take part in a daily activity designed to help pupils reflect on their wellbeing and learn simple, positive ways to look after their mental health. These activities will focus on connection, creativity, movement, and mindfulness—small steps that can make a big difference.

We hope this week will spark meaningful conversations at home too. Supporting children to understand and talk about their feelings helps build resilience and confidence, both now and in the future.

If you'd like to learn more about the national campaign or explore resources for families, you can visit the [Place2Be](https://www.place2be.org.uk/) website.

Safer Internet Day



Smart Tech, Safe choices.

Tuesday 10 February is Safer Internet Day 2026. This year's focus is "Smart tech, safe choices", with a particular emphasis on helping children use artificial intelligence (AI) and online technology safely and responsibly.

During the week, children will take part in assemblies and age-appropriate lessons exploring online safety, scams, privacy and what to do if something online worries them. This work builds on our ongoing approach to online safety and safeguarding across the year.

We have published a short blog for parents and carers with practical tips for different age groups and links to national resources.

👉 Read the full Safer Internet Day 2026 blog on our website.

Book Week



We're excited to share that Book Week will take place from Monday 2nd to Friday 6th March, and we have a wonderful range of activities planned to celebrate our love of books and reading.

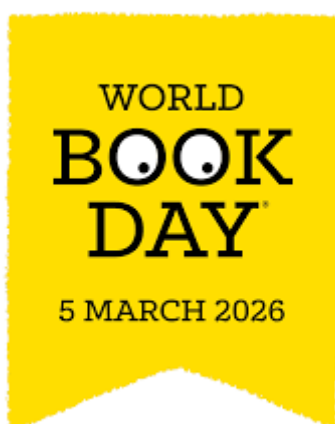
To begin our celebration of reading, our book fair will arrive on Thursday 26th February. Further details will follow soon, but it's always a fantastic opportunity for children to explore

new stories and for families to support our school library. You can take a look at the range of books that will be on sale by clicking this link [here](#).

One of the highlights of the week will be our celebration of World Book Day on Thursday 5th March. Children are invited to come dressed as a book character, a fun tradition that encourages creativity and a shared love of reading. If you're new to the school, this is a simple and enjoyable way to get involved. We encourage families to keep costumes as low-cost as possible—there are plenty of brilliant homemade ideas online. Children are also welcome to bring their chosen book on the day to share with a friend.

Throughout the week, each class will enjoy a library visit, take part in a book-themed competition, and join in with a variety of reading activities designed to spark imagination and enthusiasm.

We're looking forward to a fantastic week filled with stories, creativity and a whole lot of reading joy.



Science Week



We will be celebrating the annual British Science Week again at Crossdale, from the 6th-13th March.

The theme for Science Week this year is: 'Curiosity: what is your question?' This theme is all about putting children and young people in the driver's seat, and encouraging them to find answers to the most pressing questions they have about the world.

We will be starting off the week with a special assembly on Friday 6th March, filled with experiments! This assembly will be hosted by a science organisation that is new to Crossdale this academic year, Gizmo's Lab Science Club, who will be running an after-school club in the summer term.

We will also be welcoming in scientists from our local community to come and share their work with the children, so if you (or someone you know) work in a scientific field and would be able to offer a few hours one morning or afternoon to come in and chat about your career with the children, we would be most excited.

We will also be building on the learning that we have been doing as a school on Protected Characteristics by finding out all about the different backgrounds that scientists come from and taking part in the annual Equals Trust Sci-Tech competition - more details to follow!

We look forward to celebrating British Science Week 2026 this March.

Smart Watches



We would like to kindly remind families that children should not bring smartwatches capable of taking photographs, recording audio, or playing games, to school.

These devices raise safeguarding and privacy concerns and can also be a distraction during learning time. To help us maintain a safe and focused environment, we ask that all such watches are kept at home.

Permitted during the school day - Simple wrist-watches or fitness bands that meet all of the following:

- No camera, no messaging/social-media, no internet access, and no GPS tracking.

- Watch use is limited to time display (i.e. like a basic watch). Data-tracking features may only be accessed at home.
- No sounds, alerts or vibrations during school hours.
- Brought in at the child's own risk. The school cannot accept responsibility for loss or damage.

Expectations while at school:

- Devices must not be used in class for checking data or interacting with features.
- If a device becomes distracting to the wearer or others, a member of staff will ask the child to remove it for the remainder of the day.
- Any device causing safeguarding, distraction or behaviour concerns will be treated in line with the school's policies.

Thank you for your support in ensuring we maintain a safe and appropriate learning environment for all of our children.

Farewell to our lovely cook, Adama!



This week, we say a heartfelt goodbye to our fantastic head cook, who has been an important part of our school community for the past three years. Every day, she has prepared delicious, nutritious meals for our children, always served with a smile and a kind word.

Throughout her three years with us, she has created memorable themed days that the children have absolutely loved - from fun food events to our much-anticipated Christmas lunches. She has taken the time to get to know all of our pupils and has played a key role in ensuring lunchtimes run smoothly and happily.

We are incredibly grateful for her dedication, creativity, and warmth. She will be greatly missed by staff and pupils alike, but we wish her the very best of luck in her next chapter.

Thank you for everything!

Challenge Tree Library - Amazon wishlist!



A few years ago, we set up our Challenge Tree Library – a special collection of books for children in Years 2–6, designed to inspire a love of reading and broaden horizons. It's been a

fantastic success, and we're thrilled to see how much the children enjoy exploring new themes and genres.

We'd like to say a huge thank you to all our families who have supported us so far by purchasing books from our Amazon Wish List. Your generosity means our shelves are filling with exciting titles, giving children even more choice in what they read – thank you for helping us keep the love of reading alive!

If you'd still like to contribute, you can donate a book from our Amazon Wish List:

Please can we kindly ask for everyone to check at home to see if you have any books hiding, as we are missing quite a few from our shelves!

Safeguarding Notice for Parents



Staying Safe on the Way to and from School

Children's safety is a priority both in school and as they travel to and from school each day. As part of our ongoing safeguarding work, we regularly talk with pupils about personal safety and stranger awareness in ways that build confidence, not fear.

Key messages we share with children include:

- Do not speak to or go with anyone they do not know.
- Never accept lifts, gifts or invitations from strangers.
- Go straight home or to their agreed pick-up point.
- Tell a trusted adult immediately if they are approached or feel uncomfortable.

We also remind children how important it is to know their end-of-day arrangements. Being clear about who is collecting them and where they are going helps avoid uncertainty if plans change.

We kindly ask parents and carers to reinforce these messages at home. Regular, calm conversations help children feel safe, confident and supported.

Working together, we can help children stay secure as they move between home and school.

Rushcliffe Family Hub Network – Support for Local Families



Family Hub Support for Families in Keyworth – February and March 2026

The Rushcliffe Family Hub is here to offer free, confidential support for parents and carers. Families in Keyworth can access advice, groups and practical help early, without needing a referral or a problem to reach crisis point.

Below are some local opportunities available over the coming weeks, alongside a reminder of the wider support the Family Hub can offer.

Family Support Drop-In – Keyworth

These relaxed drop-in sessions give parents and carers the chance to speak informally with Family Hub staff about everyday concerns, including behaviour, routines, toileting, emotional wellbeing, and speech and language development.

Keyworth Library, Church Drive (NG12 5FF)

Thursday 12 February

Thursday 19 March

10.30–11.30am

No appointment is needed – families can simply turn up.

Baby Weighing Sessions – Keyworth

Monthly baby self-weigh sessions are available locally. These sessions offer reassurance, informal advice and the opportunity to ask questions in a calm, supportive environment.

Keyworth Health Centre

Monday 9 February

Monday 9 March

1.30–2.30pm

Free Course for Parents – Opening Doors with Confidence

The Family Hub is also offering a free course for parents and carers living in Rushcliffe called *Opening Doors with Confidence (Being the Best You)*. The course is delivered by Inspire Learning and takes place in a friendly, non-judgemental setting.

The sessions focus on building confidence within the family and support parents to:

- understand what may be affecting their confidence
- increase self-awareness
- develop practical strategies to make positive changes
- strengthen wellbeing across the whole family

Course details:

Venue: Bingham Family Hub (formerly the Children's Centre)

Day: Monday

Time: 1.00–3.00pm

Dates:

9 February

23 February

2 March

9 March

16 March

23 March

If childcare is needed, a crèche induction session is available on Monday 2 February at 1.00pm at Bingham Family Hub. Places are limited, so families are encouraged to get in touch early.

What Else Can the Family Hub Help With?


The Family Hub supports families with children aged 0–19. This includes help with:

- child development, sleep and behaviour
- early communication and school readiness
- feeding, weaning and fussy eating
- emotional wellbeing and parental confidence
- parenting programmes and targeted support

Recent changes across Nottinghamshire mean families can now access support through a single, joined-up Family Hub service. This makes it easier to get the right help at the right time, whether support is needed briefly or over a longer period.

Families in Keyworth can access local support directly, and the Hub can also signpost to wider services across Rushcliffe where appropriate.

Contact the Rushcliffe Family Hub

 0115 977 3749

 FHRushcliffe@nottsc.gov.uk

 www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/care/family-hub-networks

 Search *Family Hub Network – Rushcliffe* on Facebook

The Family Hub is there to support families early, positively and without judgement. Sometimes a short conversation is all it takes to open the door to the right support.

Sporting Events



Year 4 Basketball

4 of our Year 4 children took part in a Basketball festival where they practiced their dribbling, shooting and team working skills. The children did such a good job - so much so they got a little treat from the coaches from at Nottingham Hoods Basketball - 50% off tickets!

Well done to those who took part - you did brilliantly!



Crossdale PTA Events - [Crossdale Drive School - PTA Events and Updates \(crossdaleschool.com\)](http://crossdaleschool.com)



Our amazing group of parents and teachers work together to support school life and fund exciting projects. Each year, we cover annual commitments of £6,000, and everything we raise beyond that goes towards special projects within the school.

Since last year, we've been raising and saving for our quad regeneration - and there's some exciting news about this project! Read on below to find out more.

We're always happy to welcome new parents and carers. Whether you can help at an event, support planning, or assist behind the scenes, any contribution makes a real difference to our school community.

[Friends of Crossdale](#)

The Quad Regeneration Project Begins!

We're excited to share that the quad regeneration project is officially getting underway!

Over the half term, a new base will be laid near our Forest School at the back of the school. This will form the foundation for a new Forest School storage shed that has already been purchased. Once this is in place, the existing shed in the quad can be emptied and dismantled, clearing the way for the regeneration of the quad area.

Then, over the Easter holidays, we will be welcoming Wallis Gardens, a local contractor, who will be making a start on the refurbishment work.

After ensuring all of our yearly commitments to the school had been met, we are delighted to confirm that £7,200 has been given to the school to put towards the quad regeneration project. This has only been possible thanks to the incredible support and fundraising efforts of our school community, and we would like to say a huge thank you to all parents and families who have helped make this happen.

Any future fundraising will continue to go towards the quad and its regeneration. We would love to include picnic benches for both children and staff to sit out and enjoy, new equipment to be placed on the artificial grass, as well as a shaded area and a potential water feature to further enhance the space.

We look forward to sharing updates with you over the coming months as the project develops. The picture below gives an idea of what the new space will look like ... there will be some plants to create a border around the grass area and there is a window missing if you look closely!



Quiz Night

We're excited to let you know that our incoming new co-chair, Emily, has kindly offered to put together a quiz for the evening. However, we still need a Quiz Master to host the night!

If you're able to help with the questions and answers, please pop into the office and leave a message.

If you'd like to enter a team in the quiz, please click the link below to register!

<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/crossdaleschool/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=111909>



New chair and Vice chair appointed

Hello, I'm Laura, and I'm really pleased to be stepping into the role of Chair of the PTA. I'm a Crossdale parent to Jack in Year 1 and a former pupil myself, so the school holds a very special place for me. With a background in events and education marketing, I'm excited to help the PTA raise vital funds to help give our children the very best school experience. Inclusion and community are incredibly important to me, and my aim is for the PTA to feel like an extension of the Crossdale family, working together to support the school and each other.



Hi, I'm Emily, and I'm delighted to be stepping into the role of Co-Chair of the PTA. I'm a parent to Sophia in Year 1 and work as an Operations Manager. I'm really looking forward to working with you all to support the school and help strengthen the Crossdale PTA. With flexible, part-time working hours, I'm able to be present and involved, and I'm excited to be part of such a supportive school community.



Well done to the children who have completed their stamp charts over the last couple of weeks:



A big well done to the children who have completed their stamp charts over the last few weeks:

R - Sparrows: Arthur, Harry, Mollie, Edie, Amelia, Joey, Freddie, Hattie, Andreas, Oliver C, Oliver A, Henry, Gus, Finley, Myles

Y1 - Robins: Immy, Zara, Iyla, Orla

Y2 - Puffins: Sammy, Holly, Innys, Casper, Alfi

Y3 - Starlings: Ezra, Connie, Isobel, Ivy, Olivia, Madeleine, Maisie, Henry, Chelsey, Jay, Ethan, Ellie, Archer, Joshua

Y4 - Penguins: Christopher, Mabel, Shyla, Tilly, Ffion, Grace, Joseph, James H

Y5 - Owls: Rupert, Penelope, Nancy, Martha

Y6 - Lime: Zoey S, Sonny

Roll of Honour!



Player of the Match

Cash (Y4) received player of the match in his recent game for Keyworth Rugby club against Newark Rugby club, after scoring an amazing 6 tries! We are super proud of him and his progress since joining the rugby team under 9's, and is nicknamed Cash Smash!

Well done Cash, it sounds like you did you and your team proud! Keep up the great work.



Remember you can email contact@crossdale.notts.sch.uk to share any details and photographs of your child's achievements from out of school. We love to celebrate all the amazing things the children are doing! Please use *Roll of Honour* as the subject line.

(Please can we kindly ask that when sending in photographs, you consider blanking out surnames on any certificates and that when there are team photos, we assume that you have permission from the parents of all other children in the photo, to publish the photograph on our newsletter.)

Upcoming Events



Week beginning 2nd February - Children's Mental Health Week

Friday 6th February - Year 2 Class assembly (3pm start)

Tuesday 10th February - Safer Internet Day

Friday 13th February - INSET Day - School Closed to pupils

Week beginning Monday 16th February - Half Term - School closed to pupils

Monday 23rd February - Return to school

Thursday 26th February - Book Fair in school (more information to follow)

Week beginning 2nd March - Book Week

Thursday 5th March - World Book Day

Week beginning 9th March - Science Week

Week beginning 16th March - Sign Language Week

Monday 16th March - Accessorise with something blue to celebrate the start of Sign Language Week

Friday 20th March - Red Nose Day (non-uniform with something red if possible!)

Tuesday 24th March - Parents' Evenings

Thursday 26th March - Parents' Evenings

Friday 27th March - Last day of term

Monday 30th March - Friday 10th April - Easter Holidays - School closed to pupils

Monday 13th April - Children return to school

Please see the school calendar on the website for up-to-date information: [Calendar - Crossdale Primary School](#)

The term dates for the academic year can also be found on the website: [School Holidays - Crossdale Primary School](#)

School dinner menu



Please see our school dinner menus from our provider Taylor Shaw: [School Dinner Menu - Crossdale Primary School](#)

Menus for all year groups can be found by scrolling to the bottom of the page.

Please note that children in Reception and Y1 have a slightly different menu to the other year groups, due to government guidelines.

Contact Us



Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have a question or concern. Our teachers are on the playground before and after school most days and they are always happy to talk then or arrange an appointment for a longer chat.

If you need to email: contact@crossdale.notts.sch.uk

Crossdale Primary School

Crossdale Drive

Keyworth

Nottingham

NG12 5HP

Visit us on the web at our [school website](#)

