

#WeAreChrystonHighSchool



Summer 2018 Newsletter

School Ties

We are delighted to be approaching our second session using our new school ties representing our revised school values (**integrity, compassion, ambition, respect and equity**). We look forward to welcoming all pupils back to Chryston High on Thursday 16th August (first day of the new session) in full school uniform including the relevant year group tie. We frequently receive positive feedback about the high standard of our school identity and I would like to thank all parents/families for your continued support in this. Our school uniform includes the following:

Chryston High School blazer

Black formal school shoes

Black formal school trousers or shorts/black skirt

White formal school shirt/blouse

School Tie (appropriate year group)

Black/dark coloured jacket during winter months/inclement weather.



School Prom

Approximately two hundred S5 and S6 pupils made their way from the school to Hamilton Race Course on Thursday 7th June. In their finest suits, kilts and dresses they were joined by a number of teachers who celebrated a fantastic night with them. Beforehand, we were joined by parents/families in our Assembly Hall to enjoy a 'pre-prom' refreshment and most grasped the opportunity to have professional photographs taken – a huge thanks to the Parent Council for their organisation of that part of the evening. Everyone represented our school in the best possible way to ensure a memorable evening for all involved. Huge thanks to Mrs Miller (Science), as always for organising such a successful event.





Berlin Trip

Mr Kirk (PT Modern Languages) led a team of staff and pupils to Berlin and back safely week beginning 18th June. Everyone involved enjoyed learning about the culture of Berlin over the week and even managed a 22k walk around the city during one of the days – no better way to see the city in all its glory!

One Small Step for Rebecca

Congratulations to Rebecca Dickson (S6), who was one of 100 pupils selected from schools all over Scotland to attend the Scottish Space School.

Rebecca was given the opportunity to participate in a number of engineering-based activities, all of which are aimed at increasing the awareness of engineering and the career opportunities available.

We are delighted to announce that Rebecca has been successful and has been chosen for the Space School week in June to go on a once in a lifetime trip in October to visit NASA in Houston. Good luck Rebecca – everyone in CHS is extremely proud!



Accelerate

Congratulations to Euan Murray (S6), who has been selected for the “Accelerate” Summer School program at the University of Strathclyde. The summer school event is led by undergraduate and postgraduate student mentors from the relevant fields of chemistry, computer science and Electronic & Electrical Engineering. The pupils will undertake a variety of group challenges, as well as attending a careers and industry afternoon.



CHS Sports Day

Our recent annual sports day took place in May. A large number of events were organised on the day and every single S1 pupil contributed to their team. Thanks to all of the pupils and staff involved, particularly PE who organised the event.

NLC County Sports

A large number of talented athletes represented our school at the recent NLC County Sports this month. Chryston High finished very high up the medal table and we are incredibly proud of all of our pupils. Special mention to Mrs Pegrum (PE) who expertly organises these whole authority events.





Improvement Planning 2018-19

Throughout week beginning 21st May a number of focus groups were arranged (parents, pupils and staff) to consider views regarding our school improvement priorities. Many thanks to our Self-Evaluation Team (led by Miss Smith) who coordinated the programme and thanks to all pupils, staff and parents who contributed. During discussions we reflected on the successes and next steps in regard to our school improvement journey. Following our consultation and self-evaluation structures and strategies, the following priorities have been agreed for session 2018-19:

Improvement in attainment (particularly literacy)

Improvement in attainment (particularly numeracy)

Improvement in young people's health & well-being

Improvement in employability and enterprise skills of all young people

To support us further with our improvement journey (specifically in regard to closing the poverty related attainment gap) we have been allocated £43,200 from Scottish Government for session 2018-19.

Our school improvement plan for session 2018-19 can be found on the school website.

CHS Parliament

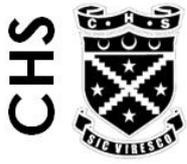
To further improve our strategies for taking the views of young people into account we are introducing a new CHS Parliament in session 2018-19. A variety of committees will be in place and each will be represented in our Parliament. We already have almost 200 young people signed up in total across these committees. This initiative will follow a democratic/parliament approach to further improve our decision making model as a school community – the grand opening will be early in the new school session.



CHS Coffee Shop/Café

With a view to further supporting enterprise (developing the young workforce), staff collaboration and parental/family engagement we are introducing a working café/coffee shop at the front of our school to be used in the first instance by young people and staff in the school. This enterprise venture will be entirely driven by S6 pupils and supported by a team of staff and partners – more information will follow on this in the new session and it is expected that our grand opening will be early in September 2018. Below are some pictures from our initial training day (Thursday 21st June).





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SQA

Huge congratulations to all of our pupils who have recently completed SQA exams. We are more than aware just how emotional the month of May can be for many young people and their families (and teachers too). The exam diet ran incredibly smoothly again this session – well-arranged and organised by Mr Jopling (DHT, SQA), Support for Learning and our invigilator team. With this in mind, we would like to wish Mrs Kathy Paton all the very best as she ends her time with us as Chief Invigilator. Many thanks for all of your hard work and support over the years Mrs Paton.

Summer Concert

Chryston Parish Church was full on the evening of 11th June as parents, grandparents, staff and pupils came along to be entertained by the incredibly talented pupils of CHS at our annual Summer Concert. From bagpipes to drums and solos to bands we celebrated so many incredibly talented and confident young people once again. These events really do showcase how amazing the young people of our school are – there were many proud family members in the audience and also some very proud members of staff. Thanks to Mr Drysdale and his Music team for organising the event and thanks also to Mark Malcolm for the use of the Church during the evening.



Young Musician 2018

Further showing off the great musical talents of the young people of CHS (including some of our primary pupils) – our Young Musician of the Year event took place on Tuesday 22nd May. Well done to all 21 pupils who competed, everyone performed to a very high standard, making it a very tough job on the night for our guest judge (Mrs Pauline Reilly, Douglas Academy). The results were as follows:

INSTRUMENTALISTS

S1/2

Winner Ross McClean Piano

Runner-up Rachel Malcolm Flute

Highly Commended Sophie Leslie Flute

S3/4 Winner Rachel Paton Flute

Runner-up Emma Ryan Flute

Highly Commended Beth Wallace Flute

S5/6 Winner Rachael Stewart Clarinet

Runner-up Andrew Coulter Piano

VOCALISTS

Winner Jodi Gemmell S2

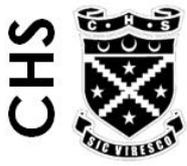
Runner-up Kai Simpson S5

Highly commended Naona Stroak S6 and Lauren Bradley S3

The performer awarded CHS Young Musician of the Year 2018 was.....

JODI GEMMELL





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Reach Group

2 very successful Reach groups have been running this year in Chryston. This is supported by Glasgow University and is designed to support students to gain entry into high tariff university courses. Chryston currently runs a group to support students who are interested in Law, Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary, Engineering and Teaching. Students in S4/S5 have attended seminars and have completed assignments. We are proud of our S5 group who completed a work experience placement at Glasgow University where they were given the opportunity to attend Lectures, complete experimental work and be mentored by current students linked with the faculty they are interested in.

The University of West Of Scotland continue to support our S6 students in PSHE to complete the Step Up to university course. This is taught by University staff and supports our students to complete their University application along-side pupil support staff. All S6 students involved passed an SCQF level 7 accredited module.

Hannah Paton was successful in obtaining a place in the UWS summer STEM academy. She will be given the opportunity to attend laboratories and work with University lecturers and other students from across the country to complete STEM activities.



Prof Adam McBride Visit

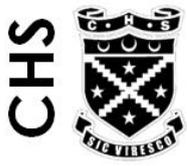
Some of our S2, S3 and S4 pupils were treated to a very inspirational talk from Professor Adam McBride from the University of Strathclyde about the importance of Maths, perseverance and problem solving. Pupils were able to take part and try solving some number puzzles and number tricks during the interactive 'old school' OHP presentation.



Escape Rooms

Some of our new S4 pupils had the opportunity to put their problem solving skills to the test when they went to the Escape Rooms in Glasgow. Pupils were locked in a room, each with a different theme, where they then had to solve puzzles, find clues and work as a team to find the key to escape the room. The pupils had a fantastic time.





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SMC Maths Challenge Winners

We're very proud of Aiden Quinn and Callum Patience who won silver and bronze awards, respectively, for their entries in the Scottish Mathematical Council Junior Maths Challenge. The pupils completed difficult mathematical problem solving questions over two rounds against pupils from all over Scotland. They picked up their certificates at the University of Glasgow in the middle of June.



2018 School Fete

Our school fete took place on Tuesday 26th June and everyone had a great day – the sunshine most certainly helped. Thanks to everyone for their contributions and especially to Mr Davidson (Technical) for doing such a brilliant job in organising the day.



Upcoming Dates

- **Thursday 16th August – Pupils return (8.55am)**
- **Wednesday 29th August - Parent Council Meeting 1 (6.30pm)**
- **Thursday 6th September – SQA Info Evening, S4-S6 parents (6.30pm)**
- **Wednesday 12th September - School Awards Ceremony (6.30pm)**

Staffing Updates

We would like to take this opportunity as a school to wish the following members of staff all the very best as they leave us for pastures new. We thank them for the profound impact they have had on our school and for all of their hard work and dedication:

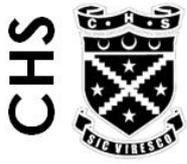
Probationer Teachers – Miss Ringrose (Biology), Miss Kane (Humanities), Mr Buchanan (Tech), Miss Gibson (Art).

Temporary Teachers/Staff – Mr McVey (English), Ms Mancisidor (ICT) and Mrs Malcolm (School Office/Admin).

A huge congratulations and good luck to a long standing member of our school community, **Mr Reid (Humanities)**. We wish him a very well deserved retirement after Thursday 28th June. Whilst we will all be sad to see Mr Reid leave our team, we wish him good luck in this exciting new chapter of his life.

We are also looking forward to welcoming a number of new colleagues into our team in August including 6 probationer teachers in various subjects. Names of new staff will be confirmed for your information in the new session.





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Other Information

A letter was distributed to all pupils at the beginning of the final week of term with information about the end of session and beginning of the new session in August – please check school bags. On the reverse side of the letter was a copy of next session’s Parent/Family Calendar. The calendar can also be accessed from the school website.

Finally, on behalf of everyone at Chryston High School, we wish you an enjoyable and restful summer break.

Thanks for your continued support.

