

#WeAreChrystonHighSchool



Summer 2019 Newsletter

School Ties

We are delighted to be approaching our third session using our new school ties representing our core school values (**integrity, compassion, ambition, respect and equity**). We look forward to welcoming all pupils back to Chryston High on Wednesday 14th 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)

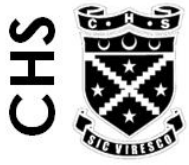
Black/dark coloured jacket during winter months/inclement weather.



School Prom 2019

One hundred a forty six S5 and S6 pupils made their way from the school to Hamilton Race Course on Wednesday 5th 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 family 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.





World Challenge – Vietnam

Miss Renicks (Maths) and Leontia McLaughlin (HSPO) set off for Vietnam on Tuesday 18th June with 12 young people from a variety of year groups to engage in our second World Challenge adventure. A programme of projects and trekking awaits them – and be assured, this is no ordinary school trip and certainly no holiday for everyone involved. The memories made will last a lifetime and the skills developed will be relied upon throughout their lives.



Delightfully, the Science Faculty at Chryston High has been selected and we have been issued with our very own NASA Mars Rover boarding pass.



Scottish Space School

For the second year running we have had a S5 pupil, Cameron Logan, selected for the prestigious Scottish Summer Space School event at Strathclyde University. Congratulations Cameron.



Mars Rover Boarding Ticket

NASA is giving the public an opportunity to send their names — stencilled on chips — to the Red Planet with NASA's Mars 2020 rover. The rover is scheduled to launch as early as July 2020, with the spacecraft expected to touch down on Mars in February 2021.

The Micro devices Laboratory at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) in Pasadena, California, will use an electron beam to stencil the submitted names onto a silicon chip with lines of text smaller than one-thousandth the width of a human hair (75 nanometres). At that size, more than a million names can be written on a single dime-size chip. The chips will ride on the rover under a glass cover.



Blair Drummond Safari Park

On Thursday 16th May, S1 pupils travelled to Blair Drummond Safari park to look at biodiversity in action. Fun was had by all.....including the staff!!





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 2019-20

Throughout May and June a variety of strategies has been used to gather views to consider our 2019-20 school improvement priorities. Thank you to everyone who has completed our survey – we have over 1000 responses from families, pupils, staff and partners. We will publish some feedback in a summary booklet in August. Many thanks also to our Self-Evaluation Team (led by Miss Smith) who coordinated this programme. During discussions we have 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 2019-20:

1/ Improvement in learning, teaching and assessment to raise attainment and achievement with a particular focus on literacy and numeracy

2/ Improvement in young people's health & well-being



3/ Improvement in employability and enterprise skills of all young people

4/ School leadership resulting in improved learning, teaching and assessment

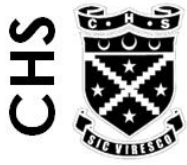
To support us further with our improvement journey (specifically in regard to closing the poverty related attainment gap) we have been allocated approximately £50,000 from Scottish Government for session 2019-20.

Our school improvement plan for session 2019-20 can be found on the school website.

CHS Parliament

A variety of committees continue to be in place as represented in our CHS Parliament. We already have almost 200 young people signed up in total across these committees. This initiative follows a democratic/parliament approach to further improve our decision making model as a school community – one exciting imminent change is in line with further celebrating our school heritage linked to the upcoming 60 year anniversary of the Auchengeich Mining disaster. More information will follow in the new school session but below is a bit of a sneak preview.





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Café Viresco

With a view to further supporting enterprise (developing the young workforce), staff collaboration and parental/family engagement, we are now open for year two of Café Viresco - a working café/coffee shop at the front of our school. This enterprise venture is entirely driven by S6 pupils and also supported by a fabulous team of staff and partners.



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 (led by Andrew McKellan). We wish everyone involved the best of luck as we await confirmation of results, due early in August.



School Show - Grease

During the evenings of 11th, 12th and 13th June we were entertained by our marvellous cast and crew of Grease, this session's Chryston High School musical blockbuster. We are so proud of everyone involved who made it the huge success that it was. Rumours are spreading that we are already beginning to prepare for next year's school musical! Particular thanks to Mrs Kay (Drama and Miss Brand (Drama) for their direction and commitment over the past number of months.

Thanks also go to parents, friends, family and colleagues for your continued support.





NLC International Conference

The Humanities Faculty had the pleasure of being a host school for North Lanarkshire's International Conference this year. The school welcomed pupils and teachers from Cumbernauld Academy, St Ambrose, St Maurice's, Our Lady's Cumbernauld and Kilsyth to have mini debates on the issues of Climate Change and Terrorism. Each school was assigned a country and had to debate these issues from the viewpoint of that country.

The following day, 9 pupils represented the school at the North Lanarkshire wide event, which included 19 other secondary schools from North Lanarkshire Council. The team debated the issues of Climate Change and Terrorism from the viewpoint of being citizens of Palestine. The event concluded with our team presenting a closing speech to the final debate. Overall, the team came second, which was voted for by the schools involved.

Well done to the pupils involved.



CHS Cluster Transition Event

The primary seven pupils from four of our associated primaries took part in an exciting Art project throughout the month of May as part of their transition programme. Delivered by our own ceramics specialist, Art & Design teacher, Mrs. McDougall, the pupils each participated in a two-day workshop where they first produced their design for a plate and then were shown how to use special coloured enamels to complete the decoration of their plates. Mrs. McDougall then brought the plates back to Chryston High, (all 150 of them!) to be fired in the kiln. After successfully processing all the plates, Mrs. McDougall delivered the plates back to everyone who were happy to see their completed works of art.

Each design is truly unique and all the students involved loved learning new skills. Well done to everyone who took part, all the designs are fantastic and it is clear to see that we have many art stars of the future!





2019-20 School Captains

Following interviews on Monday 24th June to complete the application process, we are delighted to announce our S6 School Captains team for 2019-20. Congratulation to our two new school captains, Saniyahn Ashraf and Sophie Livingston and congratulations to our vice captains – Travis Russell, Bailey Chapple and Emma Green. The hard work starts now, we are confident that this team will play a key leadership role throughout the new session.



Upcoming Dates

- **Friday 28th June - School session 2018-19 officially ends at 1pm**
- **Wednesday 14th August – Pupils return (8.55am)**
- **Wednesday 28th August - Parent Council Meeting 1 (6.30pm)**
- **Wednesday 11th September - School Awards Ceremony (6.30pm)**
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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 Morrison (PE), Miss Wallace (Music) and Miss Brand (Drama).

Other Staff – Mrs Mulrooney (Technical, heading off soon to be PT at OLHS in Motherwell), Ms Graham (Biology), Miss Reilly (Maths), Mrs Murray (Biology) and Ms Natesen (Maths).

A huge congratulations and good luck to **Mr Scott (Art)**. We wish him a very well deserved retirement after Friday 28th June. Whilst we will all be sad to see Mr Scott 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. Names of new staff will be confirmed for your information in the new session.

Other Information

A letter was distributed to all families via email during the final week of term with information about the end of session and beginning of the new session in August – please check emails. 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 a joyful and restful summer break.

Thanks for your continued support.

