



Dear Parents, Carers and Pupils of Craigroyston,

It has been a very busy time at Craigroyston with the change of timetable! There has been so much happening and lots to share!

Priorities and Matters Arising

Qualifications Scotland Exams

The exams are done for 2026! It has been an outstanding exam diet and I am so proud of our young people! Almost all pupils attended their exams organised and on time! We know they've all tried their very best! Thank you for all the support from home!

Prizegiving

Thank you so much to everyone who attended our annual Prizegiving last week! It was such an incredible evening – one of the best ones yet! It was so amazing to see all of our successful young people and we are so proud of each and every one of them! Also a huge thank you to all of the staff who made this event happen – it took great effort from a number of people so I am very grateful to them! It was just lovely to see so many families there and I really enjoyed seeing so many of you again and catching up! Thank you also to the families joining us for the first time – it was lovely to meet you!

An evening like the Prizegiving reminds us just how wonderful Craigroyston is – it really is such an incredible place full of young people and staff who are very special! I hope you enjoyed it as much as I did!

New Timetable and Recoursing

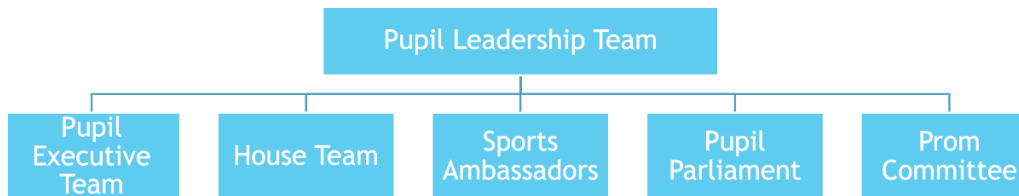
Last week our new timetable started. On the whole it has been successful and I would like to thank the staff who have made this happen. At the moment we are going through the process of recoursing some pupils – this may be because of a staffing change or a change of choice. Pupils should continue to follow their courses on their timetable until they are able to be recoursed. If your child needs to be recoursed they will be called to do this or we will catch up with them.

Late to School

This year lateness to school and class has been an ever-growing concern. This has meant that many of our young people have been missing learning time which has had an impact on their attainment. Last week we implemented a new process for pupils arriving to school after 0830. In the morning, the Heads of Houses, are outside and are marking pupils as late and a text sent home. The sheet filled in also gives an overview of lates for the week so we are able to speak with young people about this. Already we have seen a decrease in the number of lates and we're hoping that this helps with a smoother start to lessons! We're really trying to encourage young people arrive at school on time so any support with this would be much appreciated!

Pupil Leadership Team

This year, we are revamping our Pupil Leadership Team. This will now be the overarching name for all our leadership opportunities for young people. Please note the new structure below:



Applications for the Pupil Executive Team closed on Friday. On Wednesday we will extend break by five minutes and our young people who are applying for Head Boy and Head Girl will give short speeches in the staffroom. Head Boy and Head Girl will lead the Pupil Executive Team. Staff will then have the opportunity to vote for who they think is the best candidate. This will also be followed by interviews with each pupil.

Pupils Wandering

Pupils wandering the school has been a significant issue this year but is one where we have seen a massive improvement with almost all young people now going to their classes. In order to ensure that all young people are in classes and not out of class (which is a health and safety concern) we are continuing with a strict system to ensure that there are no young people wandering:

- if a child is wandering they will be escorted back to class
- if they are caught wandering again the parent/carer will be called
- if a parent/carer cannot be contacted they will work in Time Out until they can be reached
- the parent/carer will bring the child into school the next day and a plan made – this may include a risk assessment
- persistent wandering will result in a reduced timetable or an off-site plan

It is absolutely essential that all our young people are where they are supposed to be. On my walkrounds each day it is clear to see that the corridors are much calmer and quieter which makes for a really positive learning environment. Thank you for your continued support with this.

Staffing

Two weeks ago we welcomed Mr Ross McLaren our new CL Expressive Arts. Welcome to Craigroyston, Mr McLaren – we hope you've had a great week and have settled in well! This means we now have a full complement of curricular leaders which is brilliant news!

A huge congratulations to Miss Mairi McTighe who was successful at interview for Teacher of Music at the Royal High School. Miss McTighe - we will miss you **so** much! You have brought so much to our school and I know our young people will be forever grateful for the opportunities you have given them! Our loss is Royal High's gain!

On Tuesday 9th June we say goodbye to Mr Mike McGeary who has been at Craigroyston for ten incredible years as our guitar teacher! Mike has been such an asset to our team and has guided so many of our young people to musical greatness, such as Loulou Bleasedale! A huge thank you to Mr McGeary for his investment in our children and school and everything he has given over the years – we are going to miss you very much! The only advantage is that Mr McGeary is being replaced by his son with the very same name! Good luck on your next adventure, Mr McGeary!

The following jobs are live on myjobscotland:

- Curricular Leader of Wellbeing Hub (permanent)

The following posts will be advertised in the coming weeks:

- Pupil Support Leader x 2 (temporary)
- Teacher of Music (permanent)

The following interviews will take place in the coming weeks:

- Administrative Officer (Friday 12th June)

Headteacher Highlights

Craigroyston Meal

A huge thank you to Mr Sobolev, Miss Anderson and our pupils for providing such a beautiful meal to our staff last week! It looked absolutely delicious and I heard that the service from the young people was absolutely outstanding! Well done again – I am so proud of our young people!

National Museum of Scotland

This week four of our young people enjoyed a trip to the National Museum of Scotland for the Minecraft Education Build Challenge. They had a brilliant time and

really enjoyed everything the trip had to offer! Thank you to Mr Shalaev for giving the young people this experience!



Edinburgh Castle – Construction Skills

Last week several of our young people attended a trip to Edinburgh Castle to learn about construction skills. This was a really informative trip and one which they found very interesting and fun! It gave them a real insight into the world of construction in a spectacular setting! Once again, thank you to Mr Shalaev for accompanying the young people on this trip!



North Edinburgh Community Festival

A huge well done and thank you to Miss McTighe and Mr Allen who organised our young people's choir to perform at the NECF ! They sang four songs along with the Tinderbox live band! The crowd loved it and everyone had a blast! One of the highlights was Taylor Wilson singing her heart out at the front of the stage! Here is a photo of everyone who performed (missing Kahlan, Louise-Ann, Kai and Lennon) before they went on stage! So proud of them all!



Track and Field Championships at Meadowbank

A huge well done to our young people who competed in the Track and Field Championships at Meadowbank on Friday! A brilliant effort from all of them but also some significant wins! So proud of them!

Overall Placing

7th Craigryston Community High School (out of 12 schools)

Shot Put

1st Parry
3rd Riley

Long Jump

2nd Ahmed

Relay

3rd S3

Great work everyone!



SmartSTEM Science Trip

Last Thursday, 14 S1 girls went to the SmartSTEM event at NatWest HQ. They had an amazing day out listening to inspirational women who are working in various STEM roles. This was followed by hands-on workshops where they were even building their own periscope! To top off a fantastic day, each student received a goodie bag to take home! We look forward to seeing where their STEM journey takes them in the future!



Hidden Door Art Festival

Yesterday Lexi went to Hidden Door Art Festival with her Light Up Learning mentor. She had a tremendous time and was fascinated and inspired by the huge array of visual art. Looks like a brilliant experience!



Important Dates

P7 Transition Days Tuesday 16th June – Thursday 18th June

And finally... Quote of the Week

'Close your eyes, breathe, and feel the thrill of 'almost there'.

Anonymous

Please do not hesitate to contact me at Shelley.McLaren@craigroyston.edin.sch.uk if you have any questions, concerns or would like to give us any feedback.

Thank you.

Kind regards,

Shelley

Shelley McLaren

Headteacher

Craigroyston Community High School