

# Craigmarloch School

## Newsletter for Parents and Carers

19 February 2016.

### Dear Parents Carers

It's been a very busy and successful term and there's a lot of good news to share with you.

### Inverclyde Council Education Services - Review of Craigmarloch School.

The Education Services Review Team were very positive about many aspects of our work here in Craigmarloch School. Some of the things they praised included:-

- our ethos,
- relationships between pupils and between staff and pupils
- motivated pupils who enjoy lessons and activities,
- therapy programmes to meet the needs of individuals and groups of pupils,
- links with West College Scotland,
- working with partners,
- the commitment of all of the staff.

They also identified some areas we need to continue to improve and we are already beginning to work on these. The details of the report were shared with the Parent Council.

### Staffing

I feel it is important to let you know that it has been very difficult to replace teaching staff who have left or who are on Maternity Leave or who are ill. This is not just a problem in Craigmarloch School or even in Inverclyde, it is a National issue. We are working very hard to minimise the disruption to our pupils and, for the most part, we are succeeding in this.

On a positive note, our new music teacher Mark Browne, will be starting on Monday 22 February on a part time basis and will join us full time a few weeks later.

### Residential Experiences

This week 3 of our S6 girls have been 'On the Hoof' with ENABLE and the Venture Trust. We're looking forward to hearing about this camping trip – Brrrrr!

S2 pupils are going to Center Parcs for a week in March. Cosy Chalets for them after spending the day in the great outdoors!

In May P7 pupils will be invited to participate in a trip to Bendrigg for an adventure packed 4 days.

Also in May we are organising a 3 night trip to Edinburgh for S4 pupils.

We will be talking to our S6 pupils and organising a trip for them and other leavers which we hope will take place late May/early June.

### School Spring Fete

Telling you about the residential experiences leads me nicely to asking you to support this Parent Council Event on Saturday 19 March. The money raised from this event will be used towards funding these very valuable residential experiences for our pupils.

### Work Experience

A number of our S6 pupils will be going on work experience between the 7<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> of March. We hope this is both challenging and enjoyable for them. Good Luck!

### Social Enterprise

We are delighted to have achieved a Social Enterprise Award for our work in Café Connect. Why not come along to the café to check out the story? Open to the public Fridays from 9.30 – 10.30.

### Inverclyde Secondary Schools' Burn's Supper.

Craigmarloch hosted this annual event which took place last night. We were represented by John Love who recited the Selkirk Grace, Alicia Maxwell who was the Haggis Bearer, and Sophie Sheridan who sang 'My Love is Like a Red, Red Rose'. Sophie's rendition of this lovely song was beautiful, sweet and showed off her voice to perfection.

We were well supported by pupils from Port Glasgow High School who helped to serve the meal. Our piper was none other than Murray McKechnie, son of Liz who works part time in our office. Most of the Secondary Schools in Inverclyde were represented and it was wonderful to see the talents of the young people who entertained members of the Greenock Burns Club 'the Mother Club'. Thanks to Mrs Edgar who organised the 'Craigmarloch' part of the event and all of the pupils and staff who contributed towards making it such a successful evening.

### School Fund

Recently we agreed at the Parent Council that a regular income would help us to plan better for occasions and activities that need to be funded.

We therefore decided we should do the same as most other schools in Inverclyde and ask that every pupil contribute 50p per week to our school fund.

This can be done by sending 50p on a Monday; £5 for the term; or £20 for a year. (£10 for the remainder of this year).

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If you would like to do this electronically the School fund Sort Code is 80-22-60 and the Account Number is 11800463.

Best Wishes  
Eileen Stewart, Head Teacher