

NEWSLETTER



WHAT IS THE PARENT AND CARER COUNCIL?

We are a friendly group of parents and carers who represent the views of families to the school and city council, and work to improve the education and welfare of our students. We organise events for the school community and fundraise. All money raised is invested in our students and the school.

If you have any ideas to share, would like to get involved or are looking for advice or support from fellow parents, you can contact us on craiglockhartpacc@gmail.com. All Craiglockhart parents and carers are welcome to take part in the CPaCC.

GET INTO THE SPIRIT AT OUR XMAS MARKET



Hohoho, time to get your festive cheer on. Please join us for some festive shopping on Friday 29 November. We have over 25 different stalls to browse through, including bespoke jewellery, art, homeware and, of course, Christmas decorations. Once you are done shopping you can enjoy some prosecco, mulled wine and festive treats.

Please spread the word to your friends and family so they can join us. The market will be open from 6–9 pm on Friday 29 November at Polwarth Parish Church. The more the merrier. Tickets cost £2.50 and will be available at the door on the night. We are also looking for volunteers to help, so if you have some time to spare it would be greatly appreciated.

FAMILY CEILIDH RETURNS



2025 we are bringing back the very popular Family Ceilidh at Polwarth Church. The last time this happened was 2019 and it was a beloved event of lots of Craiglockhart families. There will be a live band playing from 7–9 pm with lots of dancing, fun, raffle and its BYOB! Watch out for booking details in January.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

29TH NOVEMBER
FRIDAY

What: Christmas market
Place: Polwarth Church
Time: 6–9 pm

6TH DECEMBER
FRIDAY

What: Festive freebies
Place: Front door at school
Time: 8.50 am and 12.15 pm

20TH DECEMBER
FRIDAY

What: Last day of term

25TH JANUARY
SATURDAY

What: Burns ceilidh
Place: Polwarth Church
Time: 7 pm

COMMUNITY FUNDED STAFF ROOM UPGRADE

Remember last Christmas, when as a community we decided to gift the teachers one large fund instead of individual presents? A total of £1200 was collected, and Dawn Duncan led the project to improve the staff room. It looks lovely with a new table, chairs, crockery, cutlery, toasters, microwave, toastie machine, décor, and plants. They even had enough left for a Christmas tree!



FESTIVE FREEBIES

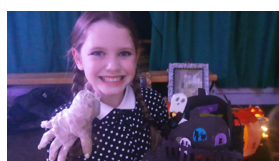
Donate your unwanted Christmas jumper and kids party clothes at 8.50 am on Friday 6th December just outside the front door of school. After school at 12.15 pm the clothes will be laid out in the scooter shed for you to pick up a free item. (Even if you didn't donate) free to all.



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FORGET PAGE 2**



HALLOWEEN PARTIES – A SPOOKY SUCCESS



The 3 Halloween parties were a success. Thanks to all the volunteers who made these 3 parties possible. It's a big effort from the parents volun-

teering from 12.30 pm until 8 pm. Next year we hope for more parents to volunteer and more spooky bakes for the kids to grab a treat.

SUCCESSFUL FUNDRAISER TO REVAMP BAKING ROOM



The Christmas cards have gone down well again this year and have raised more than £700 in commission! We've decided to spend that money on upgrading the baking space in school, which is desperately needed as it's been a decade since it was last done!!

IMPROVING ROAD SAFETY AROUND SCHOOL

The diversions from Craiglockhart Avenue have caused significant disruption, but CPaCC has been actively engaging with local councillors, SGN, and the roads team. We successfully delayed Virgin's work on Cowan Road, preventing major chaos. We've also partnered with the school's Junior Road Safety Officers and eco group to launch a campaign encouraging people to leave their cars behind. For those who must drive, we ask that parents dropping off opposite the school encourage their children to walk a short distance down to cross safely with the crossing guard, rather than crossing on the hill.

Blair Caddell is also sponsoring road safety equipment, including parking pals for Cowan Road's yellow-lined corners.

We haven't received any updates on the recruitment for the crossing guard at Ashley Terrace/Cowan Rd, but we're grateful for Lewis, who is covering until a new guard is in place.



CPaCC stands for Craiglockhart Parent and Carer Council and we would love to hear from you.



craiglockhartpacc@gmail.com



Friends of Craiglockhart Primary School



A SCHOOL THAT WORKS FOR ALL OUR CHILDREN



At CPaCC, we want to make sure that our school meets the needs of all the children, so that they can learn and thrive. To move closer towards this rather lofty goal, we're working in two main areas:

- Building a community of parents/carers of children with additional support needs (ASN) at Craiglockhart
- Engaging on ASN issues outside the school.

Having a child with ASN can feel lonely, but together we can share questions and resources, and just talk with other parents who understand. We do this via the ASN WhatsApp group, which anyone from the Craiglockhart community can join, and via informal get-togethers at the school. Recently, we've had talks by a CAMHS counsellor and by our educational psychologist. We also brainstorm to identify common issues and suggest possible solutions to the school.

At the same time, we engage with potential changes to Additional Support for Learning beyond the school. Just last week, Emma (CPaCC ASN Rep) spoke at a Council meeting about the ongoing Inclusion Review to try and ensure that it doesn't lead to any cuts in services, and Lynsey (CPaCC Chair) and Emma are talking with Scott Arthur MP and Daniel Johnson MSP about this soon.

Our WhatsApp group and get-togethers welcome any parent/carer whose child is struggling at school, for whatever reason, and needs some additional support – no diagnosis required. We'd love to have you join us.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

There are lots of ways you can help keep the CPaCC running.

We need people to help plan events, help at events, update our new website, join the road safety team, apply for grants occasionally, help set up clubs to provide more opportunities....

Do you have a specific skill set that you could share at a club, let us know! CPaCC is a team, you do what you can and you shout out when you can't. You don't have to come to every meeting, although anyone is welcome to attend. We want a parent and carer council that's open to all but is mindful that people are working on top of parenting duties. We are also interested in exploring new ideas for events or fundraisers that incorporate our fabulous multi cultural community, so if any of this appeals to you, send us an email. We'd love to hear from you.

Have a fabulous winter break and see you all in 2024!



Photos: CPaCC and Freepik.com