

Happy

Inclusive

Nurturing

Respectful

Carstairs Junction Primary School and Early Learning & Childcare

Our Wee School's a Good Wee School



Friday 27th October 2023

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Dear Parents/Carers,

Good afternoon everyone. It has been a busy week with lots of great learning in evidence.

Staffing Mrs Warnock, our Cook in Charge has made the difficult decision to commence retirement. Mrs Warnock was on long term absence last session and missed the pupils greatly. Mrs Warnock has been a dedicated and devoted member of staff for 29 years! She said she will miss the children and staff terribly. We will invite Mrs Warnock in due course to have a fitting farewell.



Whilst we are sorry to lose such a longstanding and caring member of staff, we are delighted that Mrs Lyons (who was covering in Mrs Warnock's absence) has been appointed as our permanent Cook in Charge. Congratulations Mrs Lyons!

Mr Wallace, our dedicated and hardworking 'Monday' janitor is retiring. Mr Wallace has been with us for over 5 years and has gone above and beyond to help the team. He has been our 'go to' for a whole range of jobs, including building planters and mud kitchen resources as well as undertaking all his other roles. Mr Wallace has also been very generous over the years donating equipment to the school, though humble as he is, he has never made a huge show of it. We wish Mr Wallace all the very best in his new ventures.

Mrs Wilson is now teaching in Room 1 & 2 on a Monday and Tuesday whilst Mrs Gordon is on maternity leave. This means that her CCC commitments are now being covered by Miss Smith in Rooms 2,3 4 & 5. Miss Smith has been spending time in school this week getting to know classes and routines. Welcome to Carstairs Junction.

Congratulations Our staff are continually working on further developing their own professional development and it is difficult to share with you everything that goes on however we will share with you some of our staff learning as and when it arises. Mrs Palmer, our Room 2 teacher has completed her Masters in Inclusive Education. This involved a huge commitment over the past few years. Well done Mrs Palmer, we are very proud of you!

Christmas Party with a difference This year we are so excited to be able to share with you a party plan like no other! All our Nursery and Primary children will go to Cornhill Castle Hotel near Biggar for their party on Thursday 7th December! Cornhill Castle Hotel is part of the Manorview Hotels Group, and the Manorview Group (Charity Foundation) approached us with a view to linking up with the school to provide opportunities for the pupils. The Group ambassadors met with Miss King and I this week and together have planned a fantastic party experience. The children will be split into two groups with some children attending the morning party and some in the afternoon. Transport is kindly being put on free of charge by Go Travel and the venue, food, entertainment is also laid on by Manorview at no cost to anyone... Talk about Christmas coming early! We will provide more details nearer the time. We hope that this is just the start of our partnership working with the group.

Halloween Parties Please remember your child is to come to school dressed in their Halloween costumes on Tuesday. They will go out to play at break and lunch as normal so please make sure they have warm clothes and/or jackets. If you have yet to pay the £1, can you please send it in to school. Thank you.

How Good is our School In our ELC and school, as part of our drive for continuous improvement we self evaluate under different headings or 'Quality Indicators' as they are known in Education. These indicators are within documents called 'How Good is our Early Learning & Childcare?' within the ELC and 'How Good is our School?' in Primary. Our focus over the past month has been on how well do we ensure Wellbeing, Equity & Inclusion. As a staff and within our pupil committee groups we have also self evaluated how well we think we do. It is important we have your views too. You may remember we asked similar type questions in November last year and we were delighted with the feedback. We have tried to keep the questions succinct for parents. Please can you take a few minutes out of your time to complete the questions in the link below. If you have a child also in ELC, please can you complete a separate questionnaire, the link to which can be found on the ELC SWAY.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScDcMtXvB2UkVHfKiM6OlnKz2M3uYc7bW-x7sRRtDvmx2aWAQ/viewform?usp=sf_link

Best Work Award for September Each month staff within each class select a child who has demonstrated one of the 4 capacities (Successful Learner, Confident Individual, Responsible Citizen & Effective Contributor). Well done to our September Winners.

Room 1 - Well done, Brodie! You used the success criteria to include lots of detail in this self-portrait.

Room 2 – Congratulations Harris! You are a successful learner as shown in your engagement in an art 'Superhero' activity.

Room 3 - Abi, Madalyn & Sophie, well done to all three of you! You are all confident individuals. You have made real improvements to your independent news writing.

Room 4 - Hattie, you are a successful learner. You have been mastering the skill of using the speech to text tool to support your learning across the curriculum independently – super work!



Room 5 - Well done, Lola. You are a confident individual and a successful learner! During Numeracy, you persevered and demonstrated resilience when calculating change during Numeracy. When you mastered this skill, you were then able to offer support to your peers.

Room 6 – Well done, Logan! You are a successful learner and are making good progress in Literacy, completing all activities to a good standard and with greater independence.

Reading Schools Award

Room 1 - Congratulations Adler. You have been enjoying reading longer texts.

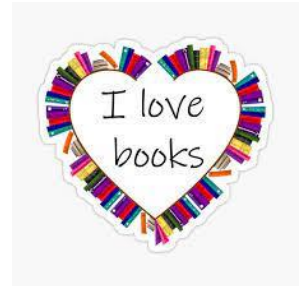
Room 2 - Mason you have been chosen as you enjoyed books at home with Mum during home learning.

Room 3 - Joshua has been really engaged in Tom Gates books when reading for enjoyment.

Room 4 - Cailan, you are really enjoying using the audio books and can select and listen to a story independently!

Room 5 - Mason, you have made contributions to class discussion with a great have a go attitude.

Room 6 - Well done Evan. You are much more engaged and interested in your reading, especially non-fiction.



Parents as Partners

Parent Council

Plans are well underway for the Bonfire Bake Coffee Morning Friday 17th November 9.45am-11am. A flyer will be sent out providing more information. Please invite along family members. We will arrange for you to have time with your child/ren at the coffee morning.

Our next Parent Council meeting will be held on **Wednesday 22nd November at 9.30am.**

If you would like to attend or even come along to the next meeting, please send a short message to the Parent Council email address: carstairsjunctionpc@outlook.com

Community News

Don't forget the Welcome All Hub Halloween Party is tonight at the Carstairs Junction Community Hall from 5pm to 8pm.

Diary Dates

31st October School Halloween Disco during the school day

1 st November	Room 4 Forest School Session 2
2 nd November	P5-7 Rounders After School Club (Session 4- final session)
7 th November	Stay, Play & Learn 9-10pm (Room 1 parents & children) Flyer heading your way
8 th November	Room 4 Forest School Session 3
9 th November	P2-4 Rounders After School Club (rescheduled session)
11 th November	Remembrance Service (select pupils)
13 th November	INSET 3 – School closed to pupils
14 th November	Lanark Grammar P7 Multi Sports after school club (session 1)
15 th November	Room 4 Forest School Session 4 (Final session)
17 th November	Bonfire Bake Coffee Morning 9.45-11am – All welcome!
22 nd November	Parent Council Meeting in school at 9.30am Room 3 (Group 1) Forest School Session 1
24 th November	Non-Uniform Day Flu immunisation
29 th November	Room 3 (Group 1) Forest School Session 2
7 th December	Christmas Parties at Cornhill House for all ELC & Primary
8 th December	Panto at Lanark Memorial Hall 12.30pm start
13 th December	Afternoon School Nativity Performance at 1.30pm Evening School Nativity Performance at 6.30pm
14 th December	Childsmile Flouride Varnish
15 th December	Christmas Raffle Draw
21 st December	Christmas Service
21 st December	Christmas Lunch
22 nd December	Non-Uniform Day. School closes at 2.30pm
8 th January	Staff & pupils return to school

Please note these dates may be subject to change.

As ever, if you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact the school office and you will be directed to an appropriate member of staff.

Have a lovely weekend.

Kindest regards,



Jill Armour
Head Teacher

