

Happy

Inclusive

Nurturing

Respectful

# Carstairs Junction Primary School and Early Learning & Childcare

*Our Wee School's a Good Wee School*

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2024



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Dear Parents/Carers,

**Christmas Round Up** This month has been a very busy month with our annual Christmas events, including our 'McTivity'. We received some lovely comments from families afterwards and we truly appreciate these and it makes it all worthwhile. Many thanks to Mrs Lyons and Mrs Kyle for putting on a delicious Christmas meal last week too. The whole school trip to the Panto was fab as always and it really is lovely to see big smiles and hear hearty laughs (from the staff too!). This week the parties were in full swing, and the pupils had lots of fun.

**Chef Robert** Our Room 5 pupils also thoroughly enjoyed their sessions with Chef Robert who came in to talk about the role of a chef. Here are some comments from the pupils:

- He was fun & made it interesting (Mason)
- I liked the allergy story (Mia)
- He taught us how to hold a knife & cut things properly (Jack)
- We learned how to make soup (Sienna)



## December Best Work Award

Room 1 - Jasmine is a successful learner in Numeracy. She has been working really hard to learn new addition strategies.

Room 2 - Mark is a successful learner in Literacy. Mark has developed his confidence when completing drawing and writing tasks. He is following adult instruction and creating detailed drawings.

Room 3 - More successful learners in Literacy! Adler, Christopher, Jaxson, Hollie & Maxwell have successfully retold a Christmas advert. Here is one of their pieces of work.

Room 4 - Owen has been a successful learner in Literacy too. He created a story map for his own version of a well-known story. He was able to talk in detail about the plot.

Room 5 - Olivia has been awarded Best Work winner for her overall approach to learning. She has shown resilience and worked hard in lots of different learning contexts.

Room 6 - Taylor-Jay has made good progress in Literacy. He has progressed with writing his name and finding the relevant information from his book to complete his read-to-write activity.



**P1 enrolment** Children who are age 5 between 1 March 2025 and the end of February 2026 are required to register their child for starting school in August 2025 by completing an online registration form which will be available from **Monday 6 January 2025**. If your child falls into this category or you know of anyone who has children this age, please make a note of this date. Please do not enrol before this date as it won't be processed, and you would then be required to enrol again from 8th January. The registration form is available on the SLC website [Enrolling your child for school - South Lanarkshire Council](#). The school will then contact the family between Monday 13 and Friday 17 January to discuss the enrolment submitted.

**Adverse Weather** If it is snowing in the morning and the ground is covered our janitor, will make every effort to ensure a path is available to the door nearest the main school gate. Whilst it is rare for the school to be closed due to adverse weather, in the event of an ELC or School closure or delayed start, Parents Portal (School) and Learning Journals (ELC) will be our first and main method of communicating updates to families. As you will appreciate, in the event of adverse weather, staff may have difficulty getting into school themselves and therefore there may not be anyone in the building to answer the telephone. Please ensure push notifications are enabled to receive updates in real time. Please also check the South Lanarkshire Council website ([www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk](http://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk)) or on the school website <http://www.carstairsjunctionpri.s-lanark.sch.uk/> for updates.

Adverse weather packs have been prepared for your child to carry out at home and these will be shared via Google Classroom in the event of a school/ELC closure.

## **Parents as Partners**

### **Parent Council**

The Christmas Raffle was a resounding success with **£1561** raised in total! (this really is incredible given the size of our school!) We thank you again for your support in making this such a success, whether this was through donating prizes or encouraging friends, work colleagues or family members to purchase raffle tickets.



The next Parent Council meeting is on **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January at 9.30am** in the school gym hall.

If you would like to attend please can you send a short message to the Parent Council email address: [carstairsjunctionpc@outlook.com](mailto:carstairsjunctionpc@outlook.com)  
Our Chair, Mrs Margaret Turner or Secretary, Mrs Rebecca Muir will be delighted to hear from you.

### **Community News**

A huge thank you to the Welcome All Hub for inviting us along to the grotto. The children enjoyed meeting Santa as well as all his helpers. Thank you for the gifts from Santa.

### **Diary Dates:**

6 <sup>th</sup> January	Staff & pupils return to school
6 <sup>th</sup> January	P1 online registration
8 <sup>th</sup> January	Room 4 Forest School – Final session
13 <sup>th</sup> January	P1 enrolment week
15 <sup>th</sup> January	Room 5 Forest School – Session 1
22 <sup>nd</sup> January	Room 5 Forest School – Session 2
23 <sup>rd</sup> January	Parent Council meeting at 9.30am
24 <sup>th</sup> January	Scottish Celebration at 1.30pm – all parents invited (letter to follow)
27 <sup>th</sup> January	Lockerbie Manor photo afternoon 2.15pm
29 <sup>th</sup> January	Room 5 Forest School – Session 3
5 <sup>th</sup> February	Room 5 Forest School – Session 4 (Final session)
17 <sup>th</sup> February	February Weekend
18 <sup>th</sup> February	February Weekend
19 <sup>th</sup> February	INSET day (no pupils in school)

Please note these dates may be subject to change.

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. On behalf of all the staff, I'd like to wish you all a healthy and happy Christmas.

Kindest regards,



**Jill Armour**  
**Head Teacher**