

Happy

Inclusive

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Respectful

Carstairs Junction Primary School and Early Learning & Childcare

Our Wee School's a Good Wee School

Friday 31st January 2025



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Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to our first Newsletter of 2025 and we wish you all a healthy and happy year ahead!

Playground Request We are very fortunate to have a wooded area to the back of our school which the children access for playtimes and outdoor learning. Over time, the bark has depleted, and the area is very muddy, especially at this time of year. For now, we have closed off this area. Plans were looking promising for us to be given free bark for the area but these plans have unfortunately fallen through. If you know of anyone who is in the timber industry and could supply us with cheap bark (or free if possible!), please can you pass on their details to the school office. We hope we can get this area open to the pupils again soon.

Uniform Please remember that pupils are expected to attend school in school uniform. Plain dark joggers/leggings are allowed, especially on PE days. Leaver's hoodies are part of the uniform for P7s. Please do not send your child to school with large, branded logos or any other type of dress down clothes etc. We have a stock of preloved uniform items in the 'bubble' at the main entrance which you are welcome to come and help yourself to.

Promoting Positive Behaviour You may recall, through consultation with pupils and staff, we introduced monthly House award for the winning House instead of it being termly. November and December saw Clyde and Strawfrank win respectively. Hot off the press...Monteith have just won for January! Here are a few pictures from November. The Strawfrank event needs to be rescheduled as theirs was an outdoor request 😊.



Communication All classes will share at least fortnightly news on Learning Journals. This is a lovely way for you to hear and see class news or some individual success stories. We encourage all families to access Learning Journals to see these, please give a 'like' or comment.

Enrolment for Early Years All applications for children who will be starting August 2025 - February 2026 (3rd birthday is between 1st March 2025- 28th February 2026) should complete an application form before the closing date of 28th February 2025. Application forms for the 25/26 session can be collected from the main office.

Class Showcases As part of sharing your child's learning with you, parents/carers are invited in for a class showcase. An invite will be sent out nearer the time.

Room 1 6th May at 2pm

Room 2 16th May at 2pm

Room 3 27th March at 2pm

Room 4 4th March at 2pm

Room 5 20th June P7 Leavers Assembly at 1.30pm

Room 6 26th March at 2pm

School Improvement Plan Update We are on track to meet our School Improvement Plan priorities for the session.

Two of our teachers attended Maths Recovery professional learning this month with a final session in February. We have one final teacher to be trained, and this will take place in April and May. Mrs Seaton is supporting staff in our ELC with Maths Recovery as well as giving input to Support Staff. This will give greater consistency of approach in classes as well as through targeted intervention.

Our ELC are currently part of South Lanarkshire Council's ELC NELI pilot (Nuffield Early Literacy Intervention). All learners are benefiting from the vibrant stories and discussion. Identified learners are working with staff on vocabulary development and talking and listening skills. Our ELC staff have also completed their woodwork online professional learning. We have now audited our resources and we are now in the process of trying to see if she can apply for funding to purchase the bigger materials.

Parents as Partners

Parent Council

The next Parent Council meeting is on **Thursday 6th March 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

Our Chair, Mrs Margaret Turner or Secretary, Mrs Rebecca Muir will be delighted to hear from you.



Valentine's Disco Our Parent Council have kindly agreed to arrange a Valentine Disco for the children on Friday 14th February for all our ELC and Primary pupils. This will spread out throughout the day with different classes going at different times. As part of the disco, the Parent Council will organise a goodie bag for each child. We ask that parents make a donation of £1 to cover the cost of purchasing some treats

for your child. Please can you send this into school with your child as soon as possible. Everyone can come to school in the morning dressed up in their favourite clothes.

Daffodil Tea The Parent Council and school would like to invite the friends and family of Carstairs Junction Primary and ELC along to our Daffodil Tea on Friday 28th March from 9.45-11.00am. You will have the opportunity to enjoy a wee cup of tea/coffee and enjoy some baking, as well as the ever popular. When you arrive, we can ask your child to come along and join you for a little treat. A flyer will follow shortly.

Diary Dates:

Please note, new dates added since the December Newsletter are in bold.

5 th February	Room 5 Forest School – Session 4 (Final session)
5th February	P5-7 Dance After School Club (Session 3)
6th February	P6/7 Cross Country After School Club (Session 2)
7th February	Rescheduled Scottish Celebration
12th February	Room 6 Forest School – (Session 1)
12th February	P5-7 Dance After School Club (Session 4)
13th February	P6/7 Cross Country After School Club (Session 3)
14th February	Valentine's Disco PM
17 th February	February Weekend
18 th February	February Weekend
19 th February	INSET day (no pupils in school)
20th February	P6/7 Cross Country After School Club (Session 4)
26th February	Room 6 Forest School – (Session 2)
27th February	P6/7 Cross Country After School Club (Session 5)
26th February	P5-7 Dance After School Club (Session 5)
4th March	Room 4 Showcase at 2pm (Invite to follow)
5th March	Room 6 Forest School – (Session 3)
5th March	P5-7 Dance After School Club (Session 6)
6th March	P6/7 Cross Country After School Club (Final session)
6th March	Parent Council Meeting at 9.30am
12th March	Room 6 Forest School – (Final Session)
12th March	P5-7 Dance After School Club (Session 7)
13th March	P7 Enterprise at Lanark Grammar (Mainstream & ASN) More Info to follow
18th March	P5 Swimming (Lesson 1)
19th March	Cross Country Event at Lanark Racecourse (for identified pupils)
19th March	Room 1 Forest School – (Group 1, Session 1) Your child's grp

	will be confirmed shortly
19th March	P5-7 Dance After School Club (Final Session)
25th March	P5 Swimming (Lesson 2)
26th March	Room 1 Forest School – (Group 1, Session 2)
26th March	Parent Consultations
26th March	Room 6 Showcase at 2pm (Invite to follow)
27th March	Room 3 Showcase at 2pm (Invite to follow)
28th March	Daffodil Tea 9.45-11.00 **Families please 'Save the Date'**
1st April	P5 Swimming (Lesson 3)
2nd April	Room 1 Forest School – (Group 1, Session 3)
4th April	School close at 2.30 for Spring break
22nd April	School reopens to staff & pupils
22nd April	P5 Swimming (Lesson 4)
23rd April	Room 1 Forest School – (Group 1, Final Session)
29th April	P5 Swimming (Lesson 5)

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.

Kindest regards,



**Jill Armour
Head Teacher**