Carstairs Junction Primary School and Early Learning & Childcare

Our Wee School's a Good Wee School Friday 28th February 2025



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Dear Parents/Carers.

A warm welcome to our February newsletter, which is full of exciting news and forthcoming dates.

Scottish Celebration Thank you to all who were able to attend our rescheduled Scottish Celebration at the beginning of February. It was 'stowed out' with a very appreciative audience. Well done to all the pupils for showcasing their talents.

Playground Request Achieved In our January newsletter, we asked if any places would be willing or able to donate bark for one of our outdoor areas. We were blown away by the community spirit, receiving donations of bark from Mick from Scotbark, Craig from Ian Hamilton Landscaping, thanks also to Castlebank Park as well as a generous donation of bark from parents within our school. We would also like to extend our thanks to Ms Stewart for giving up her own time to collect the bark from Castlebank Park and deliver it in a van containing countless bags of bark! Ms McCaig, our janitor, also got stuck in with spreading the bark out.

Here are a few of our 'before' photos of the area...







Turn over to see over fantastic, revamped area!... 😊















Funding Success We have been successful in gaining £500 of funding from 'Wild about Woodwork'. This will help us to source tools and equipment to develop woodwork across our ELC and school. This funding application was all thanks to Elaine, our Youth Family Community Learning Officer (YFCL).

Uniform/Health & Safety Please can you encourage your child to wear uniform to school. We understand that there may be exceptional circumstances where your child cannot wear uniform and appreciate a washing crisis can happen(!) however on the whole uniform should be worn. If you require any support at all with sourcing uniform, please remember our preloved uniform items are at the main entrance and you are welcome to help yourself. Alternatively, please call and ask for Mrs Armour or Elaine (our YFCL) and we will return your call as soon as we can. Please note Elaine works with us every Wednesday and alternate Mondays.

Please remember in the interests of health and safety hooped/dangling earrings or false nails are not permitted. Open backed shoes such as sandals, crocs or sliders are also not permitted as these are unsuitable footwear for P.E.

Also, please can your refrain from bringing your dog into the school grounds.

Promoting Positive Behaviour Another 'hot off the press', Strawfrank had their House treat this week as the weather was a bit kinder than December! They went to the local park and had a blast. Next up, it's Monteith for their House treat from January. Their treat is scheduled for next week.







February Best Work Award

Congratulations to our February Best Work Award Winners:

Room 1 – Milli – Working hard and being a successful learner with writing, producing neat sentences.

Room 2 – Whole class were successful learners! - Showing great teamwork in Literacy and turn taking skills when ordering the story of the Three Little Pigs.

Room 3 – Leon – Another successful learner in Literacy, using interesting vocabulary, similes and adverbs in his writing.

Room 4 – Hattie – Successful learner, researching on the internet.

Room 5 – Thomas – Being a successful learner in Literacy too, applying new learning to his writing, using descriptive phrases and ambitious vocabulary.

Room 6 – Mason – Has shown he is a successful learner and effective contributor, recognising all sounds he had learned and is progressing in his reading.

Communication on Learning Journals As stated in our last Newsletter, class updates will be shared with you regularly via Learning journals across all classes. Most parents are generally logging in regularly to see the news and photos, with quite a few giving a 'like' or a little comment, which is really appreciated. We would really appreciate it if all parents/carers could log in. If you are experiencing any difficulties with logging in, please contact the school office.

World Book Day This takes place next Thursday (6th March). We would love your child to celebrate this day by encouraging them to bring in a book to school that they enjoy reading at home. They can choose a book from our school library to read if they would prefer not to bring a book into school. Children will all have the opportunity to read their book in school on World Book Day.



If they are bringing their book in from home, please send your child's chosen book in with them on the day.

Live Parents Portal items Room 3, 4 and 6 Showcase Letters have been sent out via Parents Portal. Please let us know if you can make it along.

P7 parents have been sent consent forms via Parents Portal for the P7 Enterprise event at Lanark Grammar School and for their NEC card as part of their transition to High School. Please action these consents as soon as possible.

Room 1 (Group 1) consents have been sent out for their Forest Schools session starting on 26/03/25. Please check if your child has a consent sitting to be actioned.

Trip consents will also be appearing on Parents Portal over the coming months. We would appreciate if you could look out for these and action as soon as possible.

Parent Consultation Slots for our Parent Consultation on Wednesday 26th March will go live on Parents Portal by the end next week. Please select a slot that suits you. These times are not confirmed by the school and so the time you select is the time you should attend. For those parents who have P7 children in our ASN classes, we will be in touch shortly with dates for review meetings. If you have any issues signing up for a Parent Consultation slot, please contact the school office.

School Travel Plan We would be extremely grateful if you could take the time to complete this travel survey for our school - see QR code. Each school is required to have a School Travel plan, detailing information about travel for our school. Our Travel plan requires updating therefore I would appreciate your input.



Parents as Partners

Parent Council

The next Parent Council meeting is on **Thursday 6th March at 9.30am** in the school gymhall.

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 The disco was a great success and there were happy faces all round. Thank you to Parent Council for their support and a big thanks to DJ Angie who kept all the parties in full swing. The school and ELC were split into three groupings as opposed to the usual 2 groups. It was really positive and the older pupils appeared to really enjoy supporting the younger ones.

Daffodil Tea A wee reminder that the school and Parent Council 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.





Events at the Welcome All Hub The Hub February newsletter and Easter events were sent home in bags this week. Some fab events being ran by the Welcome All Hub during the Easter holidays if you can make it along.







Diary Dates:

1st April

Please note, new dates added since the January Newsletter are in bold. Transition dates and June dates will be added in our next newsletter.

3 rd March	P7 Level 2 Bikeability (for identified pupils)
4 th March	Room 4 Showcase at 2pm
4 th March	Level 1 Bikeability (for identified pupils)
5 th March	Please note no Room 6 Forest School today
5 th March	Room 4 Class trip
5 th March	P5-7 Dance After School Club (Session 6)
6 th March	World Book Day
6 th March	P6/7 Cross Country After School Club (Final session)
6 th March	Parent Council Meeting at 9.30am
10 th March	P7 Level 2 Bikeability (for identified pupils)
11th March	Level 1 Bikeability (for identified pupils)
12 th March	Room 6 Forest School – (Session 3)
12 th March	P5-7 Dance After School Club (Session 7)
13 th March	P7 Enterprise at Lanark Grammar (Mainstream & ASN) -
	(Consents are on Parents Portal)
17 th March	P7 Level 2 Bikeability (for identified pupils)
18 th March	P5 Swimming (Lesson 1)
18 th March	Level 1 Bikeability (for identified pupils)
19 th March	Cross Country Event at Lanark Racecourse (for identified
	Pupils – consents are on Parents Portal)
19th March	Room 6 Forest School – Final Session
19 th March	P5-7 Dance After School Club (Final Session)
24 th March	P7 Level 2 Bikeability (for identified pupils)
25 th March	P5 Swimming (Lesson 2)
25 th March	Level 1 Bikeability (for identified pupils)
26 th March	Room 1 Forest School – (Group 1, Session 1)
26 th March	Parent Consultations
26 th March	Room 6 Showcase at 2pm
27 th March	Room 3 Showcase at 2pm
28 th March	Daffodil Tea 9.45-11.00
31st March	P7 Level 2 Bikeability (for identified pupils)

P5 Swimming (Lesson 3)

1st April Level 1 Bikeability (for identified pupils)
2nd April Room 1 Forest School – (Group 1, Session 2)
4th April Solve at allowers the 200 for Spring plane at a

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, Session 3)

29th April P5 Swimming (Lesson 5)

30th April Room 1 Forest School – (Group 1, Final session)

1st May INSET day – no school for pupils

5th May May Holiday

6th May P5 Swimming (Lesson 6)

6th May Room 1 Showcase at 2pm (Invites to follow)

13th May P5 Swimming (Lesson 7)

13th May
Lanark Grammar P7 After School Club
14th May
Room 1 Forest School – (Group 2, Session 1)
15th May
Lanark Grammar Parents' Information Session

16th May Room 2 Showcase at 2pm (Invites to follow)

20th May P5 Swimming (Lesson 8)

20th May Lanark Grammar P7 After School Club

21st May Room 6 Class trip

21st May Room 1 Forest School – (Group 2, Session 2)

23rd May School Sports Day at 1.30pm

27th May P5 Swimming (Lesson 9)

28th May Room 1 Forest School – (Group 2, Session 3)

30th May Reports to Parents

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