

Happy

Inclusive

Nurturing

Respectful

Carstairs Junction Primary School and Early Learning & Childcare

Our Wee School's a Good Wee School



Friday 29th August 2025

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Dear Parents/Carers,

Staffing News Miss Ford in our ELC got married over the holidays and looked beautiful on her special day. Congratulations to the new Mr & Mrs Henderson!

Mrs Lyons, our wonderful Cook in Charge, gave birth to a lovely baby girl called Olivia. Olivia arrived earlier than expected however is making good progress. Our warmest wishes and love from all at Carstairs Junction Primary.

Community Support to the Rescue! A huge thanks to Carluke Men's Shed for creating a brand-new train for our school. Our previous train was much loved but had unfortunately succumb to the weather and was rotten. Our new train looks fantastic and sits pride of place at our main entrance.

Carluka Men's Shed have also been hard at work behind the scenes, fixing some units which were used in role play areas in some classes. Our role play furniture revamp is very much appreciated as the furniture cost a lot of money and couldn't be used.



They are not finished yet; the Men's Shed have plans in place to create a Workbench for our ELC as well as some outdoor plans for our playground. On behalf of all the pupils and staff, thank you so much Carluka Men's Shed!

Celebrating Wider Achievements At Get Together (assembly) on a Friday we love to celebrate your child's wider achievements out with school such as making progress at a club or a personal achievement at home. We issued a letter earlier in the week with more information about how to share your child's achievements for those who are new to the school. We have received a few already and the pupils have enjoyed these being shared at Get Together.

House Captains & Vice-Captains Today our Captain and Vice-Captain candidates shared their speeches, outlining why they felt they would be a suitable candidate for the role of captain or vice-captain. Thank you to everyone who put themselves forward. All candidates were awarded with a new House token for their efforts. Those who unfortunately didn't become Captain or Vice-Captain were given first choice as to which committee they would like to be part of.

Meet our new Captains & Vice Captains:

Clyde – Captain – Abi
 Monteith – Captain – Emin
 Strawfrank - Captain – Thomas

Vice Captain - Christopher
 Vice Captain - Madalyn
 Vice Captain - Joshua

Multiply Parent Workshop – Letters were sent out last week to invite parents to take part in the Parent Workshop. Please sign up via Parents Portal or contact the School Office for more information.

School Photographs – John Wilson is our School Photographer again this year. They will be in school on Wednesday 10th September to take individual and class photographs. They will also aim to take sibling photographs if there is enough time. Room 3 photos will be taken in the morning due to Forest Schools.

Ever struggle to find the right language to help your child with Numeracy?

then come along to our free
You + Me Parent Learning Programme!

Four fun workshops designed to develop the skills, tools and strategies to support your child with Numeracy.

Session 1: Number words
 Session 2: Counting
 Session 3: Structure of Numbers
 Session 4: Addition & Subtraction

Sessions are split, first part as an adult part with your child.

Relaxed and informal sessions, no need to answer questions. Time for tea, biscuits and a chat!

Session 1: Thursday 4th September
 Session 2: Thursday 11th September
 Session 3: Thursday 18th September
 Session 4: Thursday 25th September

All sessions: 2.00pm - 2.50pm

Elaine Morrison (YFCL)
 Ms Martin (School)
 Miss Thompson (ELC)

Punctuality We understand that there are the odd occasions where your child might be late due to unforeseen circumstances and please be assured, we understand, as many of us are parents ourselves! For the most part, please try to ensure your child arrives to school by 9am. It is a busy time in school at 9am and it can be difficult with latecomers needing to be let in and ordering their lunch after the class have ordered. This is also an important time where children can receive focused support and key teaching is shared and we don't want your child missing out on their learning.

Grab Rail Just a reminder that our Grab Rail with pre-loved uniform items is situated in the 'bubble' just inside the main doors. Please feel free to pop along and help yourself to anything which may be useful.

Nut Free Zone – Finally, and extremely importantly, a reminder that the school is a nut free zone. Please bear this in mind when preparing packed lunches. This includes no Nutella.

Parents as Partners

Parent Council

We are looking forward to our first Parent Council meeting of the new session which will be held on Thursday 4th September at 9.30am in the school gym hall. If you are not sure about what the Parent Council is about, why not come along and see what we

are all about. Please can you send a short message to the Parent Council email address: carstairsjunctionpc@outlook.com to say you'd like to attend. Our Chair, Mrs Margaret Turner or Secretary, Mrs Rebecca Muir will be delighted to hear from you. There will be tea/coffee and a light breakfast available 😊 at our first meeting.

In a nutshell, at the Parent Council you can expect to:

- receive updates about the school's educational progress
- be involved in organising school events and activities
- hear about how funding is spent
- know how to volunteer to be involved in the school
- work on behalf of all the parents at the school
- learn about our community links

The next Parent Council meeting is on Thursday 4th September at 9.30am.

Community News

FREE Bikebus

Join Carstairs Junction Primary School staff and Gear Up on a short community led cycle to celebrate the achievements of the CJPS 2025 Bikeability graduates.

Try out: eBikes, Cargo Bikes and Kiddie carriers

WIN a day's family cycle experience

Explore local paths and parkland by bike with your family

Monday 22nd September 3:15-4:15pm

Register your interest by contacting the school office on 01555 870301 or email gw14carstairsjoffice@glow.sch.uk

*Children must be accompanied by an adult unless they have completed Level 2 bikeability. Bikes and helmets can be provided. The ride will be led by trained cycle leaders. Please wear appropriate clothing.

School Chaplaincy Team Our school chaplain is Reverend Harrison, Carstairs Parish Church. Reverend Harrison contributes to some of our school assemblies and may sometimes be invited by classes to contribute to the wider curriculum.

Bike Bus! Please see our flyer below, inviting you to our Bike Bus session on Monday 22nd September from 3.15. We would love to see as many of you there as possible. This has only been possible thanks to the great partnership working we have with 'Gear Up' through Healthy Valleys.

In addition to it being a fun wee community pedal, there will be a free water bottle for everyone who comes along, and adult participants will be entered into a prize draw for the chance to have the use of an ebike for a month!

Diary Dates:

3 rd September	Room 3 Forest Schools (Session 2)
4 th September	Parent Council at 9.30am
4 th September	Multiply (Session 1) ELC, Rm 1, 2 & 6 parents
10 th September	Room 3 Forest Schools (Session 3)
10 th September	ELC & School Photographs
11 th September	Multiply (Session 2) ELC, Rm 1, 2 & 6 parents
17 th September	Room 3 Forest Schools (Final session)
18 th September	Multiply (Session 3) ELC, Rm 1, 2 & 6 parents
22 nd September	Bike Bus After School community cycle
24 th September	Room 4 Forest Schools (Session 1)
25 th September	Newsletter issued
26 th September	September Weekend (School Closed)
29 th September	September Weekend (School Closed)
1 st October	Parent Consultations
8 th October	Room 4 Forest Schools (Session 2)
13 th October	October Break (School Closed)

14 th October	October Break (School Closed)
15 th October	October Break (School Closed)
16 th October	October Break (School Closed)
17 th October	October Break (School Closed)
22 nd October	Room 4 Forest Schools (Session 3)
29 th October	Room 4 Forest Schools (Final session)
31 st October	Newsletter issued

Have a good weekend everyone.

Kindest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jill Armour', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jill Armour
Head Teacher