Happy Inclusive Nurturing Respectful

Carstairs Junction Primary School and Early Learning & Childcare

Our Wee School's a Good Wee School

Friday 25th August 2023



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Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to our August Newsletter! For those families new to the school, our newsletters are shared on a monthly basis, usually on the last Friday of the month.

I'd like to thank you all for how smartly your children have been turned out since we have started back. As a parent myself I appreciate the work that goes on behind the scenes!

Vision & Values

Our school **vision** is as follows:

At Carstairs Junction Primary School and ELC we provide a welcoming, safe and caring environment for our children, families and wider school community.

We strive to provide rich learning experiences which promote confidence and self-belief. Every child is encouraged and supported to reach their full potential.

Our school values that we all strive to be are:

- Нарру
- Inclusive
- Respectful
- Nurturing

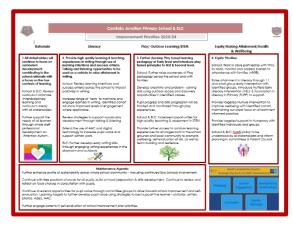
School Improvement Plan

Our School Improvement Plan for 2023/24 can be viewed at a glance on our 'SIP on a Page' on our school website. We will share updates in our monthly newsletters all about our improvement plan progress.

Celebrating Wider Achievements At Get Together (assembly) on a Monday 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 will issue a letter next week with more information about how to share your child's achievements for those who are new to the school.

Nut Free School Please remember that Carstairs Junction Primary & ELC are 'nut free'. Please can you be mindful of this if preparing your child's packed lunch. Many thanks.



Communication As you will know we have migrated to Parents Portal for most communication. Thank you everyone for your perseverance. We understand there are a few families who are experiencing some difficulties signing up. We are in the process of trying to remedy this and hope that once these teething issues are dealt with, you'll find the portal easy to use. I have had positive feedback with regards to consents, with parents commenting that is so much easier and quicker.

Our school app expires at the end of the month so this is the last time you will see our newsletters shared via the app. Moving forward, the newsletter will be shared via your child's Learning Journal.

As many of you will now, class teachers share 'News' updates via the app, this will now also be shared via Learning Journals.

Diary Dates Forthcoming events and important dates will be shared via Parents Portal, monthly newsletters and the school website.

Absences Please can you report your child's absence via the school office rather than through your child's class teacher. Please leave a message on the answering machine system, on the first day of absence before 9.30am. In your message you should let us know the name of your child, what is wrong and when you anticipate your child will be back.

New Lunch Menu Our new lunch menu will start on Monday 28th August. Copies of the new menu have been sent home. Further information on the new menu can be found here.

https://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/info/200186/primary_school_information/2161/primary_menu_2023-2024

Non-Uniform Day This typically takes place on the last Friday of every month. Pupils and staff can dress down in their casual clothes. This will be included the diary dates in the newsletter and on the app. The next uniform day will be Friday 29th September.

PE days Please find below a reminder of your child's PE days:

Room 1 Tuesday & Thursday
Room 2 Wednesday & Friday
Room 3 Tuesday & Thursday
Room 4 Wednesday & Friday
Room 5 Monday & Friday
Room 6 Monday & Friday

Gym will take place both indoors and outdoors when possible. We ask that pupils wear a white polo shirt, school sweater and black, blue or grey joggers/leggings with their trainers on their gym days. Pupils should still wear the school sweater/cardigan on PE days.

Meet the Teacher This is an opportunity for you to meet your child's class teacher and to see the classroom itself. This will be held on Wednesday 30th September. Please can you sign up via Parents Portal your preferred slot. At 'Meet the Teacher' we will share with you information about class routines, expectations and also about homework.

Parking Opposite Zig Zags area We would like to remind everyone not to park opposite the zig zag zone outside the school for the safety of all.

Parents as Partners

Parent Council

Our next Parent Council meeting will be held on **Wednesday 6th September at 9.30am**. This will be held face to face in the school gym hall.

We are looking forward to seeing few new faces and as well as returning ones.



Please do not feel that you need to attend every meeting. Meetings are generally held on a morning online, as we have found this suits people's other family/work commitments etc. We try to accommodate the majority of the Parent Council as best we can in terms of which days suit best.

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

If you would like to attend or even come along to the first one to see what it is all about, please can you send a short message to the Parent Council email address: carstairsjunctionpc@outlook.com

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

Community News

School Chaplaincy Team Our school chaplain is Reverend Harrison, Carstairs Parish Church. We also are really delighted to be working in partnership with Calum Keys, Children and Youth Worker, Clydesdale Christian Youth Trust. Reverend Harrison and Calum contribute to some of our school assemblies and may sometimes be invited by classes to contribute to the wider curriculum.

Speech & Language As part of the Speech and Language Therapy review, South Lanarkshire Council are seeking the views of parents and carers through an online survey. Below is a link to the survey The link provides a full explanation of the purpose of the questionnaire and how the information collated will be used.

https://forms.office.com/e/JBMhGhLVRh

Diary Dates

30th August Meet the Teacher (3.15-3.30/3.30-3.45) 6th September Parent Council meeting at 9.30am in school 19th September Fakeaway Cookery Session 1 (limited spaces available)

22nd September Holiday 25th September Holiday

26th September Fakeaway Cookery Session 2

28th September Small School Football tournament 12.30-2.20

29th September Non-uniform day

2nd October Challenge Poverty Week (more information to follow)

3rd October Fakeaway Cookery Session 3

9th October ELC & School Photographer (more information to follow)

10th October Fakeaway Cookery Session 4 (final session) **Parent Consultation date in October to be confirmed next week.**

16th October October Holiday

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