

Happy

Inclusive

Nurturing

Respectful

Carstairs Junction Primary School
and Early Learning & Childcare
Our Wee School's a Good Wee School



Thursday 21st December 2023

Email: gw14carstairsjoffice@glow.sch.uk

Website: <http://www.carstairsjunction-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk/>

Follow us on Twitter: @CJPS18

Coronation Street, Carstairs Junction, ML11 8QY

Tel: 01555 870301

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we come towards the end of the year, I would like to thank everyone for making our school community such a positive and supportive partnership. We really have great families who want the best for their children, with regards to their learning as well as giving their children the best possible experiences, you are all fully on board and we thank you.

Staffing Update This morning we said 'Good luck' to Miss King as she begins her secondment as Specialist Support Teacher four days a week from 8th January. She will still be with us on a Friday as well as on the allocated time to support us in her new role. Thank you to Lily and Hattie for helping me to give Miss King her flowers and handmade art. We said that we are just glad we can still keep a little piece of her on a Friday. It is with mixed emotion Miss King's moves on to this new chapter, looking forward to what the future holds yet so grateful for what she has here. We know she'll achieve great things in her new role.



P1 enrolment Children who are age 5 between 1 March 2024 and the end of February 2025 are required to register their child for starting school in August 2024 by completing an online registration form which will be available from Monday 8 January 2024. 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. A link will be shared with you nearer the time.

Money Matters support for Families Money Matters Advice line can help in many ways and can provide assistance on – Energy costs, including top up vouchers for those on pre-payment meters, accessing emergency cash support where you meet the eligibility criteria, specialist energy advice and advocacy services, foodbank referrals, advice re problem debts and arrears, checking re possible additional benefits you may be entitled to.

Phoneline opening times: Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 9am-4pm, Wed 11am-4pm

Phone: 0300 029 0041

https://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/info/200150/managing_your_money/1850/money_matters_advice_service

November Best Work Award

Room 1 Preeya, your writing has met the Success Criteria, including detail. Your writing was filled with lots of green highlighting showing all the targets met.

Room 2 Jake has been developing his communication in and around school. He is becoming a confident individual when visiting different spaces within the school.

Room 3 Roslyn created a really thoughtful piece of writing as part of Children in Need focus, showing empathy towards others.

Room 4 Well done, Hunter! You have been working very hard to use a range of word attack strategies to help you read unknown words.

Room 5 Congratulations Jack, you were able to give examples of these persuasive writing techniques. You have shown you are a Successful learner, applying your knowledge in your writing.

Parents portal Live Items

Room 3 (Group 2) Forest Schools Session Consents are now live on Parents Portal. Please check your child's parents' portal account and action the consent attached. These sessions will commence in the new year. The sessions are Wednesday 24th January, Wednesday 31st January, Wednesday 7th February and Wednesday 21st February 2024.

School Meals on ParentPay There are some outstanding debts on ParentPay for school meals. Please can you log onto ParentPay to check your child's account. Thank you.

Milk Bookings on ParentPay Please can you make any milk bookings for your child by the Monday via Parent Pay. Thank you.



Christmas Round Up!

Cornhill Castle Hotel – We cannot thank the staff at Cornhill Castle Hotel for putting on a Christmas party to never forget! This experience was only possible thanks to Manorview Charitable Foundation, who own Cornhill, offering to put this party on for us. Thank you also to Go Travel for putting on buses for both

parties completely free of charge. When we arrived, there was a piper in his full regalia, piping the children in to “Jingle Bells etc” with the function room looked beautifully festive. The children were treated to a magician and a DJ, with some children having a go being a DJ themselves! Our younger ones had a special surprise visit from Santa, with our older ones loving a snowball fight with the Grinch. Some of our pupils had a pretty good aim and chased off the Grinch!

Panto – Our trip to see ‘Sleeping Senga’ Panto at Lanark memorial Hall was fantastic. We hadn’t realised before we got there but we actually had the whole place to ourselves due to another school cancelling! This allowed those who wanted to get up and dance at the front!

‘Hey Ewe’ Nativity – Our nativity was a great success, and we hope you all enjoyed the performance. Thank you to all the parents/carers who supported their children by helping them to learn their lines. Huge thanks to the staff and pupils involved.

Christmas Lunch - The Christmas Lunch took place last Thursday. It was feeling very festive as Christmas songs played out as they children chat and ate. Many thanks to Mrs Lyons & Mrs Kyle for working hard to make this festive treat. Thank you also for providing them with an additional wee treat!

Carols Round the Tree – We enjoyed some classic Christmas carols and songs this morning at Carols Round the Tree. The children accompanied some of the songs with Makaton signing – great job everyone.

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) or the school website <http://www.carstairsjunction-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk/> for updates.



Partners Parent Council Last Friday we had our Christmas Raffle. All the children in the school were given the opportunity to draw a ticket if they wished. We raised £1276! Thank you very much indeed to the Parent Council for all their hard work. Thank you to the local businesses who contributed so generously. We had approximately 125 prizes!! There were a large number of voucher donations as well as beautiful hampers. The monies raised will benefit all the children in school and ELC.

The next Parent Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 17th January at 9.30am in school.


Community Newsletter Please see our Community Newsletter for information about local events as well as local signposts for support. There are paper copies available in school at the main foyer as well as a digital version on our school website: <http://www.carstairsjunction-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk/>

You and Your Child We are excited to invite mums, dads and other adult carers along to our new child development programme for families. The sessions will focus on the importance of play; developing emotions; supporting language and literacy skills: and how boundaries, structure and consequences will help your child's behaviour. **The sessions will offer protected time for you to work with your child on practical, fun activities. We are now at capacity but if you are interested, please contact the school and we can add you to our reserve list.** Please contact Elaine Morrison our Youth, Family and Community Learning Officer on 01555 870301.

John Muir Award Our Room 4&5 pupils have been learning about inspirational and influential Scottish people. As part of this focus, they have been looking at the life and work of John Muir who was a Scottish-born environmental philosopher and author. The children look forward to sharing more about John Muir's life and impact of his work with you some time next term, with a date to be confirmed soon. As an extension to this



You and Your Child



Carstairs Junction Primary School and ELC

We are excited to invite mums, dads and other adult carers along to our new child development programme for families.

Come along to learn more about the importance of play; developing emotions; supporting language and literacy skills; and how boundaries, structure and consequences will help your child's behaviour.

Find out about GIRFEC and get some hints and tips on how you can help to support and develop your child's physical and cognitive development.

Every week *you and your child* will take part in some fun activities including:

Biscuit Decorating

Arts and Crafts

Fruit Tasting

Game and Activities

Celebration Event

Storiesacks

Toys and Play

The programme is suitable for families with children up to age 8 and will include some group discussion, activities and parent and child interaction.

**on Wednesday afternoons for 8 weeks
starting on 17th January at 1-3pm
in Carstairs Junction Primary**

Contact Elaine Morrison
Youth, Family and Community Learning Officer on 01555 870301
for more information

learning, Fiona McCallum from the Youth, Family & Community Learning Team is working in partnership with both classes to plan for the pupils to work towards and achieve a John Muir Award each. The children have to complete a number of hours with an outdoor and sustainable focus. Their 'Forest Schools' has already given them 12 hours towards their accreditation. As a next step, Fiona McCallum will work with the staff and pupils on developing areas of the playground. She has also got on board Lanark Men's Shed who will help with the plans! The John Muir focus will end with both classes visiting Loch Lomond. This is being funded by the YFCL team and we are extremely grateful for this opportunity.

Diary Dates:

8th January	P1 enrolment week online
8th January	Staff and pupils return to school
9th January	Room 4 & 5 John Muir (Session 1)
10th January	Room 3 (Group 1) Forest School (Session 3)
16th January	Room 4 & 5 John Muir (Session 2)
17th January	Room 3 (Group 1) Forest School (Final session)
17th January	You & Your Child (Session 1) Families who requested to join
23rd January	Room 4 & 5 John Muir (Session 3)
24th January	Room 3 (Group 2) Forest School (Session 1)
24th January	You & Your Child (Session 2) Families who requested to join
26th January	Scottish Celebration Day @1.30pm (save the date) & newsletter issued
29th January	P1 & P7 Dental Inspection
30th January	Room 4 & 5 John Muir (Session 4)
31st January	Room 3 (Group 2) Forest School (Session 2)
31st January	You & Your Child (Session 3) Families who requested to join
6th February	Room 4 & 5 John Muir (Session 5)
7th February	Room 3 (Group 2) Forest School (Session 3)
7th February	You & Your Child (Session 4) Families who requested to join
12th February	February Holiday
13th February	February Holiday
14th February	INSET (no pupils in school)
20th February	Room 4 & 5 John Muir (Session 6)
21st February	Room 3 (Group 2) Forest School (Final session)
21st February	You & Your Child (Session 5) Families who requested to join
23rd February	Non-Uniform Day & newsletter issued
26th February	World of Work Week (more information to follow)
27th February	Room 4 & 5 John Muir (Session 7)
28th February	You & Your Child (Session 6) Families who requested to join
28th February	Room 5 Trip to Loch Lomond
6th March	Room 4 Trip to Loch Lomond
6th March	Room 6 Forest School (Session 1)
6th March	You & Your Child (Session 7) Families who requested to join
13th March	You & Your Child (Final session) Families who requested to

	join
13th March	Room 6 Forest School (Session 2)
13th March	P6/7 Cross Country Event at Lanark Racecourse (selected Pupils)
19th March	Swimming Lessons for P5's (Lesson 1)
20th March	Parent Consultation
20th March	Room 6 Forest School (Session 3)
21st March	P7 Lanark Grammar Enterprise Challenge at Lanark Grammar
22nd March	Non-Uniform Day & newsletter issued
26th March	Swimming Lessons for P5's (Lesson 2)
27th March	Room 6 Forest School (Final session)
28th March	School closes at 2.30pm for Spring Break

From all the staff here at Carstairs Junction, I would like to wish you all a lovely Christmas and New Year. We will see you all in 2024.

Best Wishes,



Jill Armour
Head Teacher