Dear Parent/Carer

- **Staffing Update** – Mr Dorrian’s absence continues. His 2 days are being covered internally.
- As you know Mr Harmon has secured a permanent class teacher post and left at Spring break Mrs Simpson joined us on Monday 25 April.
- Mrs Andrews RCCT teacher is currently on Maternity leave. There is no replacement so far, again we are covering internally.
- Mrs Forde’s secondment continues.

**Extra Curricular**
Our Cross Country team performed really well at Clydesdale Cross Country event on Friday 18th March. Well done to everyone.

Room 5 and P7’s from Room 4 are taking part in Rugby Taster Sessions run by a Lanark Rugby Club coach. The pupils have their final taster session on Tuesday 3rd May.

**Credit Union** – Our P6 teams are still very busy on Tuesday mornings, helping the pupils of Carstairs Junction to be savvy savers. Due to recent staff absences it has sometimes been difficult to run Credit Union. We appreciate your understanding.
We are most grateful to two of our Nursery parents who are willing to volunteer as parent helpers to help oversee the weekly collection. Thank you! If you are interested in opening a credit union account, please contact the school office.

P.6/7 Lockerbie Manor – A reminder that the balance of the £211 must be paid before 20 May 2016. Please don’t leave it to the last week! You can send money with your payment card to the office at any time.

Making Rights Real – The Committee recently talked about the lack of play facilities in the local community. The pupils also linked their discussion to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) Article 31: ‘Children have the right to relax and play’. They planned a walk round the local area on 1st April to look at the play facilities. On their return to the school after the walk, Rhyce (P6) and Sean (P4) created a power point, using photographs taken during the walk. This was shown at a recent whole school Get Together. The Committee have planned to speak to our Parent Council and write to local councillors to have their voices heard and to discuss possible next steps.

The school will be taking part in UNICEF’s Day for Change again this year. This will take place on Friday 13th May. Money raised will help children in danger, facing disease, hunger and the chaos of war and disaster. We would really appreciate it you could start collecting any loose change. One of our parent committee members suggested turning it into a competition by asking each class to fill the outline of pupils. The winning class will be the class who collects the most money for UNICEF and they will receive a small prize. Some classes will be combined and the outlines of pupils will be the same size to ensure it is fair!
We will have applied for Making Rights Real accreditation. Assessors from South Lanarkshire Council will visit the school on Monday 6th June at 9am. The committee are busy working on a 'Making Rights Real' leaflet to send home to give you a summary of the UNCRC Articles and to give you an understanding of how they are embedded within our school. We would appreciate it if you could discuss this leaflet with your child. You could make it fun and ask them to name some of the articles. We are not expecting them to memorize Article numbers but pupils should be able to name some!

The next committee meeting will be held on Tuesday 31st May at 1:15pm.

**Eco Committee** - The committee are making preparations for our annual Health and Eco morning on Friday 27th May. School sports will take place in the afternoon so pupils are able to wear their sports clothes all day. We ask pupils to wear something with their house colour if possible. Strawfrank is red, Monteith is yellow and Clyde is blue.

Our next committee meeting will take place on Tuesday 17th May.

**Pupil Representative Council** - The committee will be busy this term discussing and planning for forthcoming events such as Sports Day, CJPS' Got Talent and Primary 7 Treat.

The next committee meeting will be held on Tuesday 3rd May at 11:30am.

**JRSO** - Our Road Safety Officers, Cain and Leah have organised a cycle safety morning for pupils on Tuesday 24th May. Our focus is to raise awareness about the importance of staying safe when on your bike. The officers will visit each class to talk to the children about suitable clothing and equipment to wear whilst cycling and
how to do a bike safety check before going outside to learn some skills on our ‘bike obstacle route’. We hope to be able to offer helmet checks too. This will be an additional ‘wheelie’ day for children so bikes and scooters can be brought to school but as always, helmets must be worn.

**Parent Council** - Thank you to the parents who recently passed on comments and suggestions to the school via Parent Council members. One parent request was for a clothing recycling bank to be on site all year round. The Eco Committee have organised for a Rag Bag Recycling Bank to be in place in the school grounds very shortly. Concerns were also raised with regards to the amount of broken glass, litter and dog fouling outside the school. The Making Rights Real Committee organised for pupils to put up posters outside the school to remind people not to drop litter and to clean up any dog fouling. Our posters have been displayed on the school gates, however it was very disappointing to see that most of these have been pulled down. A parent also asked if the school has tracksuits which the pupils can wear at local sporting events. We are in the process of looking at our current stock to see if we have enough to supply to the pupils at future events.

Next meeting is on Tuesday 31st May at 2pm. Any new members are most welcome.

**PTA** - Many thanks to the PTA for agreeing to fund the transport cost for the P7 Treat night out. The PTA is also planning to pay for the buses for class trips. Teachers are in the process of planning these excursions. More details to follow.
Our 'Minions' Family Film Afternoon was very successful, raising £94. Parents and pupils have requested we hold more of these afternoons in the future. We have a very busy term ahead and are not able to plan one for after 3pm. This can be built into our plans for next session. The PTA has kindly agreed to run a film afternoon for pupils only on Tuesday 21st June. The film is yet to be decided. More details to follow later in the term.

The PTA have organised a 'Summer Survival Hamper', which includes a range of outdoor sports equipment etc worth in excess of £60! Pupils will have the chance to win the hamper over the coming weeks. Tickets will go on sale week beginning Monday 9th May at a cost of £2 per ticket. The winner of the hamper will be randomly selected and announced at the end of the Sports Day on Friday 27th May.

Similarly, a hamper has been organised for Nursery pupils and tickets will go on sale, also at £2 per ticket and the winner will be drawn and announced at the Nursery Sports on Wednesday 1st June. Good luck!

**Climbing Wall** - Our climbing wall was officially opened on Friday 22nd April, with cutting of the ribbon by our oldest and youngest pupils, Claire (P7) & Rhys (P1). The wall is proving very popular with all of our children from Nursery to Primary 7. Please can you ensure that your child does not play on the equipment before 9am.
**Best Work Award** - The awards were given to the following people at Get Together:

Best Work Award for:

**February** - Adam (Rm 6), Barrie (Rm 1), Kieran (Rm 2), Brooklyn (Rm 3), Chloe (Rm 4) & Caitlyn (Rm 5)

**March** - Summer (Rm 6), Niamh (Rm 1), Isla (Rm 1), Perry Christie (Rm 2), Hannah (Rm 3), Campbell (Rm 4) & Erin (Rm 6).

The Making Rights Real Committee decided to prepare 'Golden tickets' (Willy Wonka style!) for the Best Work Award winners. The ticket gives each winner a free pass on the day to the front of the lunch queue. The pupils then sit at a 'Golden Table' at lunch time. The introduction of the golden tickets and golden table has been very well received.

**Late Comers** - Parents are reminded to ensure their child/children arrive before 9am as if they are late it is very disruptive for the other children in the class. As you appreciate they also miss out on valuable teaching time. Medical/dental/optical appointments during school time should be kept to a minimum.

Appointment cards/letters should be sent to school for copying and inclusion in their child's pupil record folder.

**Lunch money/snacks** - The office staff would appreciate if parents could put lunch money and snacks into children's bags before sending them into school.

**Car Park** - Please watch your speed when driving through car park.
**Weather** - Please ensure that your child does not come to school too early. If it is raining in the morning the children will have access to the school from 8.45. Children will be kept in at playtimes during very wet or very cold weather. The children should always wear a coat or jacket to school, even if the weather is bright and sunny in the morning, as our Scottish weather can be very unpredictable. Children going home for lunch should not return too early in bad weather.

**CJPS’ Got Talent**

Last year’s show set the bar high as pupils delighted the audience with a range of performances (the staff performance got a giggle or two also!). A letter will be sent out shortly explaining the format and rehearsal dates. Please can you make sure you discuss and agree with your child if they wish to be involved, as last year some children regrouped a few times! Could you also help decide on the performance and make sure props, music is brought along to rehearsal dates.

**SLC Newbuild School Programme** - The following statement has been made by Operations at South Lanarkshire Headquarters: "I can assure you that Miller Construction, the company involved in the building of the Edinburgh schools, has not been involved in the construction of any SLC school. As part of our ongoing quality assurance processes we will continue to monitor our school buildings on a regular basis to ensure that they provide a safe environment which is suitable for 21st century learning".

**Aileen Murray**

Head Teacher
Diary Dates

May 2016

Mon 2nd  Holiday
Wed 4th  Wheelie Wednesday
Thurs 5th  Inset 5
Fri 6th  Bring a Parent to School afternoon
Fri 13th  Room 6, Room 2 & Room 1 Coffee Morning
           UNICEF 'Day for Change'
Fri 27th May  Eco/Health Day (am)
             Sports Day (pm) behind
             Community Hall

June 2016

Wed 1st  Nursery Sports
         Wheelie Wednesday
Fri 3rd  Once Upon Our Time Celebration Day (am)
         Parents of Pre School Nursery, Room 5 and P7
         parents from Room 4 to be invited
Mon 6th  Making Rights Real accreditation (am)
         Dress Rehearsal ‘CJPS’ Got Talent (pm)
Tues 7th  P1/ASN Transition & parents meeting - Day 1 (2pm)
         CJPS’ Got Talent evening performance
Wed 8th  Snapshot Jotters Home
Thurs 9th  Lanimers Holiday
Fri 10th  Lanimers Holiday
Mon 13th  Pupil Award Ceremony
Tues 14th  P1/ASN Transition (pupils only) - Day 2 (9.15am)
           P7 Transition to Lanark Grammar - Day 1
Wed 15th  P7 Transition to Lanark Grammar - Day 2
Fri 17th  Leavers’ Assembly
Mon 20th  P7 Treat
Tues 21st  PTA Film Afternoon (pm)
Wed 22nd  Nursery Graduation (pm)
Thurs 23rd  Prize Giving (pm)
Fri 24th  Non Uniform Day (no donation)
          School closes at 1pm