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Carstairs Junction Primary School and Early Learning & Childcare

Our Wee School's a Good Wee School



Wednesday 13th August 2025

Email: gw14carstairsjoffice@glow.sch.uk
Coronation Street, Carstairs Junction, ML11 8QY

Website: <http://www.carstairsjunction-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk/>
Tel: 01555 870301

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to our first Newsletter for this year. I hope you have all had a lovely summer holiday despite the variable weather at times. It was lovely to see a few of you out and about over the holidays.

We will share our ELC and school newsletters as usual at the end of each month which will include further information with upcoming dates etc. Please refer to our newsletters throughout the year and record any important dates/events in your own diary. Diary dates can also be found on Parentsportal as well as on our school website.

Staffing News Firstly, a reminder of the few staffing changes this session within the structure of the senior leadership team. Mrs Paterson has returned to us following her secondment, working within the Specialist Support team in Clydesdale. Mrs Wilson-Seaton has returned to her substantive post as Principal Teacher within our school for a short period, before beginning her maternity leave in September. Ms Nayyer will take over the role as Acting Principal Teacher during the maternity leave. Ms Nayyer very ably fulfilled this role last year and is delighted to be staying with us for this session.

We would like to share with you Mrs Paterson's news that she and Mr Paterson are expecting their first child. Mrs Paterson is due to commence her maternity leave in November. We are over the moon for them as they begin their exciting next chapter. From a school perspective, the Acting DHT post will be leeted and filled in due course and you will be updated as and when there is further information.

Please also find below a reminder of the classes for this session:

Room 1: P1/2/3 Mrs Grey/Mrs Wilson-Seaton (Mrs Seaton's maternity leave is due to commence at the beginning of September; therefore Ms Nayyer will be in class on a Tuesday from the start of term. Mrs Grey will be in class for the remainder of the week)

Room 2: P1-5	Mrs Palmer
Room 3: P4	Ms Martin
Room 4: P4-7	Ms Stewart/Mrs Turner
Room 5: P5/6/7	Mrs Simpson
Room 6: P2-4	Mrs Gordon/Mrs Wilson

Mrs Brown will continue to cover CCC in some classes.

ELC updates

Suncream A reminder that on sunny days, can children please come to nursery with suncream on. If required, staff will top it up at lunch time.

Drop offs A letter was sent out last week with an update regarding our drop off and pick up times. Please note that the nursery doors will not open until 9am. Should you require your child to be dropped off before hand, please speak with Miss Thompson who can discuss the extra hours charges with you.

Breakfast Club Our Breakfast Club will commence on Thursday on the first day back. Breakfast Club runs from 8.25 to 8.55am in the canteen. If you wish for your child to attend Breakfast Club, please either call or email the school office to let us know which days they wish to attend. There is no cost for this provision.

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.

First Day arrangements for Primary 1 We look forward to welcoming pupils back on Thursday.

On day one, Primary 1 pupils being brought to school by parents/carers, are asked to bring their child to school for 9.15am and collect their child at 2.45pm. They should be brought to the school office for 9.15am and will be collected from here at 2.45pm. This is for day one only as it will allow them to enter and exit when it is a little quieter. We will meet briefly in the hall. Mrs Grey will come to collect your children and bring them to the cloakroom and class. They will be shown where to put their jackets and bags etc. We will then come along to bring the parents/carers to class to take some photos of their child in class and to spend a short time with them before letting them get on with their day.

Pupils being brought to school by taxi in our supported classes will arrive at the usual time of 9am and depart at 3pm and will be supported by school staff at these times of transition.

Entering/Exiting We ask that your child does not arrive at school prior to 8.45am as the playground and MUGA is only supervised from this time. If your child was in that particular classroom last year, these arrangements are exactly the same.

	Entering the school before 9am	Exiting the school at 3pm
Room 1	Main playground gate beside Room 1 classroom	Main playground gate beside Room 1 classroom
Room 2	Escorted by taxi escort/school staff to the	Escorted round by school staff where they will meet their taxi escort/parents/

	main playground gate beside Room 1 classroom	carers at the lower gate just outside the MUGA
Room 3	Enter the main gate and go to the MUGA	Via their classroom door at the end of the day and go out via the main playground gate beside Room 1
Room 4	Arrive by taxi (or enter the main gate if local) and go to the MUGA	Escorted round by staff at the end of the day, where they will meet their taxi escort/parents/carers at the lower gate just outside the MUGA.
Room 5	Enter the main gate and go to the MUGA	Via their classroom door at the end of the day and go out via the main playground gate beside Room 1
Room 6	Escorted by taxi escort/school staff to the main playground gate beside Room 1 classroom	Escorted round by staff at the end of the day, where they will meet their taxi escort/parents/carers at the lower gate just outside the MUGA

Lunch time Most pupils stay in school for lunch. If you wish for your child to be a home lunch can you please either email or call the school office to let us know as close to 9am as possible so that we don't need to bother you by chasing this up with a phone call.

Lunch Menu

The school lunch menu for 2024/25 remains in place for now with the 2025/26 menu commencing on Monday 26th August. Copies of the new menu will be sent home next week. Please see the links below:

School : <https://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/primary-menu>

ELC: https://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/info/200184/early_learning_and_childcare/1855/lunches_and_snacks_at_early_learning_establishments/2

Grab Rail Just a reminder that our Grab Rail with pre-loved uniform items will be outside the main door today and tomorrow. Please feel free to pop along and help yourself to anything which may be useful. For the remainder of the year, the grab rail is situated in the 'bubble' at our main entrance, please come and browse at any point and help yourself to any pre loved items.

School Uniform We look forward to seeing the children in their uniform. On PE days, children are asked to wear comfortable joggers or leggings and suitable trainers- along with their usual school sweater/cardigan. Please do not worry about 'PE' days as your child's class teacher will let you know when this will be very shortly.

Please remember in the interests of health and safety no hooped/dangling earrings or acrylic/false nails are not permitted. Please can you also ensure that your child does not bring any toys to school or make up etc. We have plenty of resources/toys for your child to use at break time etc. As you will appreciate, if your child brings in a toy it can lead to them getting upset if the toy is lost/broken or another child wants to play with it. Please can you also make sure that your child brings appropriate indoor shoes, gym shoes or an old pair of trainers is ideal. Open toe shoes and open backed shoes (such as Crocs) and slippers are unfortunately not suitable for health and safety reasons.

Please can you label all your children's items of clothing and also their water bottles, packed lunches and ties. We encourage children to bring in their own water bottles but please don't worry if they forget one day as we have a stock of water bottles which they can help themselves to. We also ask that only water is in the bottles not diluting juice.

Snack Snack is provided in class each day at no cost to families. Pupils are consulted over what they would like as a snack. This will recommence from the first day. Therefore, please do not send in their own snack.

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.

I hope that all goes well with being back to the 'old routine' on Thursday or for some a very new routine! I look forward to seeing everyone in the morning.

Kindest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jill Armour'.

Jill Armour
Head Teacher