

# Newsletter

**- For staff, parents, carers and the local community -**

**August  
2019**

## WELCOME BACK

I hope you have all had a restful holiday and enjoyed the break. It's always nice to be able to spend time as a family.

I am delighted to welcome the children back and give a special welcome to the new Primary 1 children and those who have joined the school in other classes. I hope all of the children are looking forward to the new year. Staff have been working hard over the last two days, but also over the holidays, to ensure that they provide a positive, interesting educational experience for their pupils.

There have been one or two staff changes from last year. The updated staff list is as follows:

Nursery Teacher	Mrs Anne Coubrough (Mon, Tues) Mrs Kirsty Bailie (Wed, Thur, Fri)
Early Years Team Leader	Miss Lesley Stewart
Early Years Workers	Ms Lesley Cairns Ms Deborah Rossie Mrs Lorna Shaw Mrs Kate Stuart
EY Worker apprentice	Miss Charlotte Frame
Primary 1	Mrs Anne Smart (Mon, Tues, alternate Wed) Mrs Lynn McLeod-Kerr (alternate Wed, Thur, Fri)
Primary 2	Mrs Lisa McRae
Primary 3/4	Mrs Kirsty Bailie (Mon, Tues) Miss Fionna McLuggage (Tues - Fri)
Primary 4/5	Miss Linzi Stewart
Primary 5/6	Miss Maigan Reid
Primary 6/7	Miss Morgan Smith

CCC throughout the school will be covered by Mrs Sharon Goodwin.

### Support Staff:

Primary 2	Mrs Karen Shearer
Primary 4/5	Mrs Helen Cochrane
Primary 6/7	Mrs Elizabeth Scott
Office and P3/4	Mrs Tracy Porteous

Support staff will work throughout the school but the above classes are where they will start off the session.

Should you have any queries or concerns regarding your child please speak to their class teacher in the first instance. They are the person who knows your child best and who is most likely to be able to answer your questions. If, however, you feel that the class teacher has been unable to deal with your query/concern please feel free to contact me either in person or by phone.

Achieved Rights Respecting  
School Award

June 2010



Achieved Fairtrade  
School Award

June 2010



Achieved Gold Health  
Promoting School Award

June 2007

and

Achieved Health Promoting

Nursery Gold Award



## NEED TO CONTACT SOMEONE OR MAKE A COMPLAINT?

### School Contact

Head Teacher: Pamela L. Easton    Principal Teacher: Sharon Alexander    Office: Tracy Porteous

Phone: 01555 840263

Email: [office@carnwath-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk](mailto:office@carnwath-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk)



David Welsh

### Parent Council Chairperson

Phone: 01555 840263 and your contact details will be passed on

### Education Resources

Phone: 01698 454545



## WEBSITE

Please visit our website where you will find lots more information including photos

<http://www.carnwath-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk/wordpress/>

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Breakfast Club



Children must be brought to the cafeteria by a parent/carer. This ensures that they arrive safely and that should the school have an unexpected closure you are aware of it and your child is not left at school. The Breakfast Club will run from 8.15 till 8.45am and will be supervised by Support Staff. All breakfasts are free for the children.

There is also a Toast n' Go service available to children from 8.45 till 8.55am where they can come to the cafeteria, collect toast and take it out into the playground. This is also a free service.

### School Uniform

We would be grateful if all children could attend school wearing the correct uniform. This identifies the children as our pupils and makes them all look very smart. We would be grateful if girls' skirts could be of a reasonable length. Please note jeans are not appropriate for school. School uniform can be purchased through ParentPay at any time of the year. Please feel free to ask if you need assistance.

All children should have gym shoes to change into while in school (slip on work best as Velcro loses its stick very quickly) and also shorts and t-shirts for gym days. Children must change for gym. If they do not have clothes to change into staff will let you know why they were unable to take part in PE. Children must tie up long hair and they are not allowed to wear jewellery. Earrings must be removed or taped up for safety reasons.

I would also be grateful if all items of clothing could have your child's name marked on them. This allows us to find and give back lost items.

### Assemblies

Assemblies will normally be on Fridays at 2.15pm. We have not completed our assembly calendar yet but once it is finalised the dates for the class assemblies will be added to the parental app diary page since I know that parents/carers are keen to attend and support their child.

### Finance

In line with South Lanarkshire Council's financial procedures we are now using ParentPay to allow parents to pay for school meals, trips etc. If at any time you need a card to use at a PayPoint then please contact Mrs Porteous who will be happy to arrange this for you. Very occasionally we may collect money but this is usually when we are doing charity events.

### Entering School Building

Although we expect children to be in school by 9am if your child arrives after the doors are shut they must enter the building by the main entrance. I would also remind parents/carers that if they are visiting the school they must also come to the main entrance in order to sign in. School gates will be shut and locked during the day when children are in school.

### Medication

If your child requires medication during the school day I would be grateful if you could go to the office to fill in the appropriate forms. We are unable to administer medication without a current form being completed and signed by a parent/carer. I would also be grateful if an adult could deliver any medication to the office rather than ask a child to bring it with them. Medicines must be brought in their original packaging with the chemist's sticker with your child's name and the correct dosage on it. The first dose of any new medication must be given at home rather than in school.

### Electronic Devices

I would be grateful if you would remind your child that electronic devices, eg mobile phones, tablets, apple watches, are not allowed to be brought to school.

### Home Time

Please ensure your child knows where they are going after school. There is not always someone in the office to take a message at the end of the day and we want to ensure that your child is kept safe and does not go to the wrong place. Feel free to write in their home-school planner if you feel they will forget what to do.

Thank you very much for your help with all of the above matters.

## PARENT COUNCIL

As a parent/carer of a child in our school you are automatically a member of our Parent Forum. From our Parent Forum we form a Parent Council which meets monthly to discuss general issues relating to the school. We discuss issues relating to the whole school rather than regarding individual children (concerns about your child or their class should be raised with the class teacher).

The Parent Council play a valuable roll in raising money for the benefit of all children in the nursery and school. This money is used for many things that benefit the children. Classes may go out of school on an educational trip (eg Edinburgh Castle), they may have a visit from a group who provide a workshop (eg Scottish Opera) or resources may be purchased, e.g. new reading books, outdoor play equipment. The work of the Parent Council in this respect is vital to enhancing the educational experience of all children and widening their access to resources which support their learning.

The Parent Council also support development within the school. They offer advice and help us with our self-evaluation. Their opinion is sought and they contribute to the life and work of the school in this way.

We will be having our AGM on Wednesday, 28th August at 6.30pm in the staffroom at school. We will appoint the new committee and refreshments are always on offer. New members are always welcome. Please consider coming along to join us. We would value your opinion and welcome new talents.

If you are unable to attend meetings but are able to help with organising events behind the scenes then please let us know. We are always grateful for help.



## GOOD TO BE GREEN

We use a 'Good to be Green' behaviour system in school. Staff work hard to encourage children to behave well and make the right choices. I have included the steps in the system as a reminder of what happens if your child chooses not to do as they are asked. Your child will start each day on green.

Green

Yellow: warning

If your child can show that the yellow warning has encouraged them to improve their behaviour and has made an impact they will be able to move back to green at this point.

Red: at this point your child will lose 6 minutes of their Golden Time

Blue: your child will miss their next playtime

Pink: your child will be sent to the Head Teacher or Principal Teacher



At the end of each term there will be a certificate for each child who has remained on green during that term. Each child will be allowed to use one 'chance' card between August and December and again between January and June to invalidate a yellow, red or blue card. The 'chance' card cannot be used to invalidate a pink card. Children who have been 'green' all year will be awarded a special certificate in June.

'Good to be Green' information will be added to your child's home-school planner on a daily basis. Children will receive a green dot at the end of each day if they remain on green. If they are not on green then you will be told what colour they reached and why.

## SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

I look forward to a very busy year for staff and pupils. We have a very full Improvement Plan in place for the coming session which will help us develop our practice in order to help every child reach their potential. As part of our improvement agenda I look forward to engaging with all parents/carers in order to ensure that your opinions and ideas are taken into account.

Each year the school produces an Improvement Plan which must follow guidelines set by South Lanarkshire Council but be relevant to Carnwath Primary School and Nursery Class as well as the Biggar Learning Community. It's aim is to improve the quality of learning and teaching, the environment in which the children learn and the work we do with parents as partners in their child's education.

You will receive a summary of this year's plan so that you are aware of what we are working on. The main areas are literacy, in particular writing, and Health and Wellbeing.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### AUGUST

15th	Pupils return to school
	9.15am P1 parental coffee morning
19th	P6 swimming sessions start in the afternoon
22nd	Carnwath Bank of Treasures first collection
28th	6.30pm Parent Council AGM
30th	P1 parental information afternoon, 1.30pm

### SEPTEMBER

20th	P6 Science Day in Biggar
24th	JRSO event for P6 Junior Road Safety Officers
25th	6.30pm Parent Council meeting
27th and 30th	School closed for September Weekend

### OCTOBER

3rd	School photographs to be taken
10th	Parents Consultation Evening 3.30 - 9.00pm
11th	Flu vaccination for children
14th-18th	School closed for October holiday
21st	P7 to Lockerbie residential week
29th	Parent Council Hallowe'en disco
30th	Biggar High School P7 parents open evening

More dates will be on the parent app.

**Pease note that the above dates may change due to unforeseen circumstances.**

## PUPIL FORUMS

We will have 6 Pupil Forums running throughout this year:

Eco	Mrs Coubrough, Mrs Cochrane, Mrs Bailie
Fairtrade	Miss Reid, Miss Smith
Rights Respecting	Mrs Smart, Mrs Scott
Health and Wellbeing	Mrs Goodwin, Miss McLuggage
Community	Mrs McRae, Mrs Porteous
Charity	Miss Stewart, Mrs Shearer



Forums will be led by the children. Each Forum has a minute taker. This process allows every pupil to have a voice and to contribute to the life and work of the school.

While all the above forums have pupil and staff members I would be delighted to have a parent representative on each forum. If you could spare a half hour twice a term we would be very pleased to have you. Please let us know if you would like to join one of our forums which will be held on a Tuesday between 2.15pm and 2.50pm.



EDUCATION SERVICES  
Executive Director: Tony McDaid  
Carnwath Primary School: Head Teacher - Pamela L. Easton