



Education Resources
Executive Director **Tony McDaid**
Carnwath Primary School

Acting Head Teacher: **Jennifer P Bradford**

Carnwath Primary School and Nursey Class

Term 1 Newsletter



Welcome back for session 2022-2023. This promises to be an exciting session and we have lots of plans for sharing this with parents and carers. The children have all settled well into their new classes and are already working extremely hard. We have a few events planned for this term and details of these are included in this letter. Please also remember that you can phone into the school at any time should you have any queries or concerns. Our door is always open and we'd be glad to see you.

Mrs Bradford

Parent Council

The AGM is being held on Tuesday 13th September at 7pm. This is held on Teams. As soon as the members are elected, we will let you know.

Minutes for Parent Council meetings will be shared on the School App.

Please feel free to join us – it's a great team and they certainly have positive impact upon the service we provide for our children.

Parking



A gentle reminder that the entrance to the school is very busy with children arriving and leaving at the beginning and end of the school day. If you are dropping your child at school by car, can you please be mindful of our neighbours and avoid blocking driveways – even if it is for a short period of time. **Can you also avoid driving into White Craw Court as this then means you are required to reverse when you are leaving and this poses a significant threat to the children arriving on foot.** There are also occasions at the end of the day when we have not managed to close the school gate – this does not mean the car park can be used as a turning point. The children are not used to there being moving vehicles in the car park at the end of the day and are not used to looking out for them. Thank you.

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Healthy
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Meet the Teacher

We would like to extend an invitation to all parents/carers to come along and meet your child's teacher and visit their classroom on Wednesday 21st September. This event will take place at 3pm. Please collect your child as normal and make your way to the gym hall where there will be a short presentation followed by a visit to the class. If you cannot make the event, your child will travel home in the usual manner on that day. We are all very excited to welcome you back into the classrooms.



Lockerbie Manor

The P7s are all getting excited about their trip in October. An information evening is being held in the gym hall for all P5,6 & 7 parents on Thursday 15th September at 5.30pm. Going forward, we are planning to run the trip biannually for P6&7 in a bid to keep costs down. The larger the group, the cheaper the price!

Pupil Progress Meetings

You will be invited to speak to your child's teacher on the evening of Thursday 13th October to discuss their progress. There will be a mixture of virtual and face to face meetings available so you can choose what suits you best. Please note, there will not be opportunity to look at your child's work during this evening but we will run another series of Coffee Afternoons week beginning 7th November when your child will talk you through all they have been learning.

Hallowe'en

Although it seems early, we thought we'd let you know that whilst we will still celebrate Hallowe'en in school, children will not be asked to dress up for it this year. Children will make masks etc. on the lead up to Hallowe'en to wear on the day. The costumes can be expensive and this decision has been taken as a positive step towards reducing the cost of the school day which is a priority for our school, the local authority and the Scottish Government.

Pupil Equity Funding – Participatory Budget

We will shortly be seeking your views on how we should spend a portion of our Pupil Equity Fund this year. We have £1715 allocated to this. The consultation will start with the children and we will share their ideas with you and give you the opportunity to vote for how you think the money should be spent. This budget is allocated to the school each year to allow us to minimise the detrimental impact poverty can have on a child's learning and ensure all children have equal opportunity of a variety of experiences.

Standards and Quality Report and School Improvement Plan

Following the results of our end of year consultations, we have devised our Standards and Quality Report, this details our achievements from last year, and an Improvement Plan which highlights our priorities for this year. A copy of the improvement plan is included at the end of this newsletter and the S&Q will be available on the website, by the end of the week. If you have any comments or questions about this, please contact Mrs Bradford who would be pleased to discuss this with you.



Class News



P1

P1 have an amazing start to school. They have already been working on their fine motor skills, holding a pencil and writing their names.

This term, we will be working on rhyming words and phonic sounds. We will identify words with those sounds and learn how to write them. For numeracy, we are learning to count, add and write numbers to 10.

We read the rainbow fish at the start of the term and found an interest in creatures that live under the sea! So our topic this term is under the sea, where we will learn about the different animals that live in the sea. We will use this topic for play based learning and arts and crafts.

P7

Everyone has settled into P7 well and has been busy working hard. This term we will be exploring persuasive techniques and writing our own adverts as well as learning about finding tales and creating our own stories through Talk for Writing. In maths we will be extending our knowledge of number processes and building confidence with the four operations. We will be exploring the solar system through our science topic and learning how we can help with environmental and social issues in our local area. P7 are all very excited for the year ahead and can't wait for their residential trip to Lockerbie Manor in October!

P4/5

P4/5 are working on their class novel which is 'Stig of the Dump' by Clive King. They are enjoying finding out about all the adventures that the main character, Barney, and his friend Stig have while also developing their comprehension skills using various reading strategies. This work has led to a topic on pre-historic times and discovering what life was like for people back then.

In Numeracy, the children are working on place value and estimating and rounding numbers. They are also developing mental maths strategies to help them calculate answers to problems.

We are focusing on Emotion Works during Health and Wellbeing lessons and are revising the 5 cog model; this involves us looking closely at what triggers our emotions, how we feel and what we can do to regulate our emotions and make ourselves feel better. We are also working hard to understand and demonstrate our new school values - happy, safe, friendship and respect.

P2/3

We have had such an exciting start to P2/3 this year. We have started looking at the story of Elmer and discussing how we are all unique and that that's ok! We have made lots of new friends and have been spending time getting to know each other. In Term 1 for Literacy, we will be reading lots of new Biff, Chip and Kipper stories and learning about summarising stories and making predictions. We will also be writing about ourselves in class too. In Numeracy, Primary 2 are working on using numbers 1-100 and being able to read, count and work with them. Primary 3 are learning numbers all the way to 1000. Our IDL topic this term is going to be Space as the children showed a keen interest in this topic, when trying to watch the Artemis rocket launch (which is still yet to happen!!) We can't wait for all the fun activities we have planned this term!

P5/6

P5/6 are developing their reading skills and strategies through their class novel Kensuke's Kingdom. We will then move onto our Talk for Writing topic which is also based on our class novel. The children will also continue to work on their spelling strategies daily.

In Maths, we are working on Place Value, Estimating and Rounding and Addition and Subtraction this term.

Their Interdisciplinary Topic this term is of course Kensuke's Kingdom where we will be developing skills such as researching online and offline using various types of reference sources. We will be learning about different countries and islands that are in the book incl. more in depth learning about Japan and we will touch on the war. They will compare life in Japan and Scotland and learn through drama, art, music, dance and science also.

P6 children will have their swimming lessons whilst P5 will have their bikeability.

Mrs Alexander and Miss Frew

P1 and P2 have been learning to log in and out of the computer and have been using their mouse to select, drag and drop. They will now move onto basic block programming activities, including sequencing and creating basic loops using 'code.org'

P3 - P7 have been learning how to write block codes for our new micro:bits. Throughout the term, they will use 'Microsoft Make Code' to enable to micro:bits to do a variety of activities such as; measuring temperature, creating sounds, measuring light and sound, plotting acceleration and many more exciting projects! They will also explore other platforms for coding such as 'Scratch' and 'code.org'.

P3/4

P3/4 started off the new school year by reading 'The Hodgeheg' by Dick King Smith and doing lots of interesting follow up activities, such as creating their own maps and designing 'Road Safety' posters. P3/4 are now getting into the swing of their usual phonics, spelling and reading activities and are enjoying accessing the library for personal reading and being creative in the writing area too.

We have been busy exploring numbers up to 100, 1000 and even 10,000 this term! They have been learning all about the value of each digit in a number. For example, the 5 in 350 represents 5 tens, or 50; however the 5 in 5,006 represents 5 thousands or 5,000. They have also been learning about odd and even numbers and counting up in 2's, 3's and 5's.

Some of the children were showing an interest in 'Space' and were eager to learn more about it. P3/4 have therefore decided to explore and investigate 'Space' as their topic this term and follow the current 'Artemis Rocket Launch' as part of this learning journey.

House Captains

Well done to this year's House Captains. They had to prepare a speech to share with the whole school in order to convince the other pupils to vote for them. They are:

Caleb Brownlee – Somerville

Nikolay Markov – Medwyn

Maisie MacLennan – Langwhang

Jayden Findlay-Roberts – Couthally

Look out for some exciting House Events in the coming year.

Important Dates for Term 1	
Tuesday 13 th September	7pm: Parent Council AGM
Wednesday 14 th September	3-4pm: Rugby After School Club
Thursday 15 th September	PM: P6 Swimming P5 Bikeability 5.30pm: Lockerbie Manor Parent Info Evening (P5-7)
Monday 19 th September	School Closed: HM the Queen's State Funeral
Tuesday 20 th September	3-4pm: Gardening Club
Wednesday 21 st September	3-4pm: Rugby Club 3-4pm: Meet the Teacher
Thursday 22 nd September	PM: P6 Swimming P5 Bikeability
Friday 23 rd September and Monday 26 th September	School Closed
Wednesday 28 th September 3-4pm	Rugby After School Club
Thursday 29 th September	P6 Swimming P5 Bikeability
Thursday 6 th October	PM: P6 Swimming
Tuesday 11 th October	3-4pm: Gardening Club 7pm: Parent Council Meeting
Thursday 13 th October	PM: P6 Swimming 3.30-8.00pm – Pupil Progress Meetings
Friday 14 th October	School finishes for October break

Important Dates for Term 2	
Monday 24 th October	Return to school
Tuesday 25 th October	3-4pm: Gardening Club
Thursday 27 th October	PM: P6 Swimming
Monday 31 st October	Hallowe'en Activities in class
Thursday 3 rd November	PM: P6 Swimming
Wk Beg 7 th November	Coffee Afternoons (Mon-Wed)
Tuesday 8 th November	3-4pm: Gardening Club
Thursday 10 th November	PM: P6 Swimming
Monday 14 th November	Inservice – children should not attend
Tuesday 15 th November	7pm: Parent Council Meeting
Thursday 17 th November	PM: P6 Swimming
Tuesday 22 nd November	3-4pm: Gardening Club
Friday 2 nd November	PM: Panto performance for whole school
Wednesday 7 th December	1.30pm: Nativity performance
Thursday 8 th December	6.30pm: Nativity Performance
Friday 23 rd December	9.30am: Christmas Assembly School finishes at 2.30pm
Dates for Christmas Parties will be confirmed after October Break	

Re-Connect...

Carnwath Primary School and Nursery Class
Improvement Priorities 2022 - 2023

...With Each Other

Develop a play-based approach as a way to re-engage children, facilitate the development of problem solving skills, independence, resilience and social skills such as team work and compromise.

Further develop High Quality Teaching and Learning of Digital Technologies

Further develop High Quality Teaching and Learning with Talk 4 Writing

To devise a school-wide target setting system that will enable children to consider and discuss themselves as learners, their strengths and next steps

...With Parents and the Community

To develop meaningful links with a variety of community groups that will allow the school to work with and enhance the community whilst enhancing the experiences we provide for children

To build strong and trusting relationships that allow the school to provide family support when it is required.

To re-connect with parents and give them opportunities to visit and take an active role in their child's learning.