



**Education Resources**  
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**Carnwath Primary School**  
Head Teacher: **Jennifer P Bradford**  
**Carnwath Primary School**  
Term 2 Newsletter



Welcome to our second newsletter of the session. Term 1 was busy and flew in for us all at school. We have lots of exciting things planned for Term 2. Please refer to the important dates that have already been shared – an updated version is attached at the end of this letter. More details of various events will be shared as they approach. Please ensure you have the app downloaded and keep notifications switched on as this is our main mode of contact with parents & carers. Thank you.

Mrs Bradford

### Parent Council

Following our AGM, we have some new office bearers: Julie Morrison has agreed to be the Chairperson and Stephanie Graham is now the Secretary. Thank you to the previous post holders; David Knox-Welsh and Ciaran McGuigan. Leighann MacLennan has stayed on as Vice-Chair and Ilka Graham is Treasurer. The dates for meetings have been agreed (please see minutes that were shared) and we will send reminders out each month. Please let us know if there is anything you wish discussed or better still, come along and join in. We'd love to see you there!

### Junior Road Safety Officers



Our JRSOs, Aaron and Emilia have been busy organising the Walk to School initiative we are taking part in this year. In order to earn a monthly badge, children are required to walk to school at least once a week. We are currently working to ensure all children have fair access to this, even if they come to school on a bus or in a taxi. More information will follow. We continue with our plea to all parents to avoid parking too near the school gates – this makes it unsafe for children who are walking and blocks access should emergency services need in. There is no need for anyone to park closer than the garages at the end of White Crow Court. Parking there would allow your child to earn a point for 'Park and Stride'.

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Healthy  
Working  
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### The Little Things (that are actually really important)

I would like to take this opportunity to highlight seemingly 'small' rules we have in place and why. We are finding these rules are often forgotten or disregarded by children and parents/carers. It is our goal to help all our children grow to be responsible citizens and I am sure you want the same for them. In order to achieve this, we need to ensure they know how to follow the laws of the land – even the small ones. If we teach our children that some rules can be ignored today, they will learn to apply this thinking in the wider world as they grow older. I understand that these rules are easily forgotten so have pulled together a handy reminder for reference. Thank you for your support with this.

#### **1. Playground Security**

The safety of your children is always extremely important. In order to support us with this can you please bear in mind the following:

- No parents are permitted in the playground between 9am and 3pm.
- Only P1 parents are permitted into the playground to collect children from their class.
- All other children should be met at the school gate if being collected.
- Please **do not** enter the playground before the 3pm bell has gone.
- This rule applies to **both gates**.

We have highlighted this before but are still finding parents are entering the playground before 3pm. It would be a shame if the gates had to be policed at 3pm to ensure this rule is adhered to.

#### **2. Children are only permitted to have water in their drinking bottles for in class**

We have 2 main reasons for this:

- Juice is either high in sugar or artificial sweeteners, both of which are well documented as something that you should limit your intake of.
- Juice and flavoured water ruins jotters, books and other resources when it is spilled. Most of the time, water can be dried out.
- No carbonated or energy drinks of any kind are permitted in school at any time of the day.

Children can have juice (not fizzy) at lunchtime. A lot of children choose juice over water when there is a choice however, most will drink water when that is what everyone else is drinking in class.

We have a water fountain which children have access to throughout the day.

#### **3. Access to Classrooms**

We are delighted when you can all join us for various events in the school and the children love sharing their learning and experiences with you. Unless the details of the event specifically include a visit to the classroom, there is no access for visitors to the teaching corridor. I understand that your child might ask you to come to their classroom, but it would be helpful if you could remind them that this is not permitted. The children can return to their classroom on their own. This allows the teaching to continue uninterrupted and helps us maintain the high levels of security we have in the school. As always, our priority is keeping the children safe.

#### 4. Mobile Phones in School

Children are not permitted to bring their mobile phones to school. However, we recognise that it is sometimes helpful for the children to have access to their phones at the end of the school day. If this is the case, we ask that you make sure your child understand the importance of taking their phone to the office in the morning and collecting it again at the end of the day. The reasons for this are:

- Phones are expensive and are at risk of being stolen or broken if they are left unattended in school bags or pockets.
- Children are the same as us – if you know your phone is there, it's really hard to ignore it and not look at it for the whole day.
- The school has detailed permissions of who can and cannot have their photos taken in school and children are not aware of this.



#### Outdoor Clothing

As we move swiftly through Autumn and into Winter, can I please ask that children attend school with a waterproof jacket every day. Even if it is sunny in the morning, the playground is still very cold, and the rain or snow can make an appearance without much warning.



#### Christmas Gifts

As the Festive Season approaches, we would like to respectfully remind all parents and carers that whilst the thought of giving teachers a Christmas Gift is extremely kind, there is no expectation of this. Christmas is an incredibly expensive time of year, and we would rather you not worry about providing gifts for anyone in school. The teachers will not be giving the children Christmas gifts but instead will provide a class treat nearer the end of term. Santa will also still be providing gifts for P1-3 at their Christmas Party.



#### Attendance At Christmas

Attendance at school is always a priority and children are learning and enjoying a wide variety of experiences right up until the last day of term. Previously we have seen an increase in absence as we get closer to Christmas. Please note, there are no longer any restrictions in relation to Covid, children are welcome to come to school if they have a cold and we would appreciate if you avoided keeping the children off in case they get ill.

Christmas is a magical time in primary school and this is when some of the best memories of school are created. We would love to be able to share these with your children.



## Class News



This term, **P1** are beginning to learn alphabet sounds and how to write them. They are also learning to read with a reading book and common words. For numeracy, they are learning to add and subtract to 10. For science, they are learning about materials and water. We are also so excited to start rehearsals for the nativity performance!

Primary **1/2** are working really hard this term preparing for our special Christmas Show - Baarmy Bethlehem. We working on our fabulous singing, dancing and acting skills to surprise all our parents and carers at our performances. In Numeracy and Maths, P2 will be learning to estimate and round to the nearest 10 and P1 are working on their adding skills. We are focusing on comprehension and prediction in Literacy as well as learning lots of new sounds and phonemes. This is a really busy term and we can't wait for all the exciting activities we have planned in the lead up to Christmas

**P2/3** are looking forward to another busy term ahead. In numeracy and mathematics, we are continuing to focus on numbers to 100 and numbers to 1000 before moving on to investigating 2D/3D shape as well as angle, symmetry and transformation. In literacy, we will continue to work on reading strategies to further develop our fluency and comprehension and we will also work on improving our spelling and writing skills, with a specific focus on vocabulary and 'up-leveiling' our sentences. We are going explore lots of different yoga activities as part of our health and wellbeing and concentrate on ball skills during our P.E time.

This term Mrs McLeod-Kerr returned to teaching and **P4/5** have been enjoying working with her again. Welcome back Mrs McLeod-Kerr! This term in numeracy the children will be developing and extending their addition and subtraction skills. A good time to ensure they have a really secure knowledge of number bonds. The children will also be learning how to measure accurately so they can confidently estimate lengths, areas, weights and volumes. This could be a big help with any Christmas cooking! Another big focus will be to develop the children's oracy skills – listening and talking. We want to help the children gain confidence when speaking in front of others and we hope to give them lots of experiences which help them develop these skills, as well as providing feedback to ensure they know how to do this effectively. And of course this is the term when we teach some really important life skills – how to take part in traditional Scottish dances. P4/5 will be all ready for any Hogmanay dances!

**P5/6** have chosen to learn about the Jacobites for our topic. We will focus our writing and some reading activities around this topic, as well as our ICT and drama - in particular writing and performing from scripts. We also plan to practise our social dancing in time for our Christmas parties.

**P6/7** will be continuing to work on reading fluency and comprehension strategies using their group novels. We will also be reading 'Holes' as our class novel. In maths the circles and triangles will be finishing their multiplication and division topics and then moving onto time. The squares will be continuing the order of operations topic before moving onto negative numbers and multiples, factors and primes. We will be continuing our learning on living things, exploring animals and plants in science. We will be focussing on using line, pattern, and shape in art this term.

**For Health and Wellbeing**, the children will be completing a drugs education programme called "What's The Score?", which encourages them to make sensible choices now and in the future. They will also complete activities for Anti Bullying Week. In **RME**, the lower school will be learning about festivals celebrated by different religions such as Diwali and Hanukkah. Upper School will be learning about Remembrance Day and the story of The Good Samaritan. During Term 2 in **ICT**, the focus will be on Digital Literacy. P1-3 will be learning to use the tools in Google Slides, Jamboard and Book Creator. P4-7 will be learning to create, read and organise data within spreadsheets using Google Sheets.

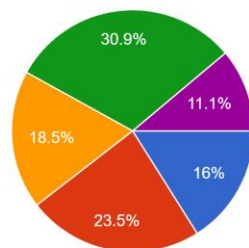
## Pupil Equity Funding – Participatory Budget

The results of the consultation mean that we will be allocating this money to school trips. This will mean every child in the school will enjoy one trip this year which will be completely free of charge to parents/carers. Thank you to everyone who took the time to vote.

## Results of Consultation on Trips

Here are the results of the consultation carried out at the recent Pupil Progress Meetings:

How would you prefer we managed the cost of trips?  
81 responses



- They are free of charge for all pupils
- I would rather pay towards each trip
- I am happy to pay the full price of each trip
- I would like the option to pay towards a trip if I can
- I would like the option to pay into a fund that covers trips for all children

We had 81 responses. The overall response shows that the majority of parents would like the opportunity to pay towards trips. Whilst the first trip children receive will be paid using our participatory budget, if there are additional trips, parents will be informed of a suggested donation. We would appreciate any donation you can make as our funds no longer allow us to cover these costs.

*Please get in touch if you have any ideas or suggestions for the school or if there is anything else you would like to see in our termly newsletter.*

Here is a list of important dates for your diary this term. Please note, if anything else is added as the term progresses, we'll let you know via the school app with as much notice as possible.

Dates for the Diary	
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October	All children return to school for Term 2 P6&7 children leave for Lockerbie Manor
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> October	Spooky Tuesday Parent Event for P1&P2 P6 Swimming After school Drama Club After school Gardening Club Group 1 Parent Council AGM (7pm in school)
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> October	P6&7 children return from Lockerbie Manor, please collect your child between 2pm and 3pm
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> October	Flu immunisations
Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> October	P6 Swimming After school Drama Club After School Gardening Club Group 2
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November	Saint PHNX visiting P6/7
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> November	Individual and Family Photos P6 Swimming After school Drama Club After school Gardening Club Group 3
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> November	2pm: Remembrance Assembly – family and community welcome to attend
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> November	Inservice Day
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> November	P6 Swimming After school Drama Club After school Gardening Club Group 1
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> November	Childsmile Fluoride Varnishing for Nursery & P1-4 2pm: Anti-Bully Assembly – family and community welcome to attend
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> November	P6 Swimming After school Gardening Club Group 2
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> November	9.30am: P3&4 Parent Event (details to follow) After school Gardening Club Group 3
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> November	Manorview Christmas Party for P1-4 (3-7pm)
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> December	Christmas Panto in school (dress down)
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	1.30pm: Christmas Show Afternoon Performance
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	6.30pm: Christmas Show Evening Performance
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	Nursery Sing-a-long
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Santa Saunter (dress down)
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	P6&7 Christmas Party

Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	P4&5 Christmas Party
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	AM: Choir Performing for Community P1-3 Christmas Party
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> December	Nursery Christmas Party
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December	9.30am: Christmas Service – family and community welcome to attend 2.30pm: School closes for Christmas Break
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	School re-opens for Term 3