

Dear Team Carstairs Families

It has been an action-packed fortnight to get term 2 started. Please see below for the highlights and for a few reminders of dates shared on our school calendar.

Week 1 – Term 2

Our big focus in week one of Term 2 was our tenth anniversary celebration. All classes took to the stage, sharing information about a year that they had chosen from the last decade. They used poetry, singing, dancing, acting and presenting skills to remind us of particular areas of interest from their selected years.

Highlights included P1 /2's ribbon dance linked to the year 2018, P7's fabulous Pokemon game linked to events in 2016 (and a special appearance from Donald Trump!) and P5's trip back to 2014 and Glasgow's Commonwealth Games and their Parade of Nations. Well done to all pupils and staff for their great work leading up to this, and on the day. Thank you to all who came along to join in the fun – it was a pleasure to have you here with us. Thanks also for the lovely comments and feedback we received. Here's to the next 10 years – and beyond! 😊

We finished week 1, with two fabulous Halloween Discos, ably run by our Parent Partnership. The costumes were brilliant and lots of fun was had - well done to all, and thank you to all involved in organising and running this fun annual event.

Week 2 – Term 2

This week, our big excitement has come from every class having the opportunity to head to Lime Walk Wood for some forest school learning. Our children and staff have braved the elements, to get stuck into extending their creativity and problem-solving skills, as well as having the opportunity to immerse themselves in imaginative play, collaboration and team work. All classes have achieved success in these initial sessions, and we look forward to more adventures next week.

Special thanks to Mrs Whitehead for her hard graft in preparing all of the materials needed for these fun sessions – and for her huge, infectious enthusiasm for leading this forest school fun. Well done and thank you, Mrs Whitehead – keep up the great work.

It is important that children come well prepared for the sessions, with a change of footwear (and a carrier bag for their muddy / wet shoes to go home in), a waterproof jacket and trousers that you don't mind them getting a bit dirty. The letter originally sent is attached here as a reminder of what your child should wear on the Lime Walk Wood days, this term.

Next week, beginning Monday 06 November, the running order for classes will be as shown in the letter attached:

- Monday – 1.00 – 2.45 - P1/2 and P7
- Tuesday – 1.00 – 2.45 - P2/3
- Wednesday – 1.00 – 2.45 – P4
- Thursday – 1.00 – 2.45 – P5
- Friday – 1.00 – 2.45 – P6

Please note that there will be some adaptation to this during week commencing 13 November, owing to the in-service day on Monday 13 November and we will confirm these adjustments with you next week.

Carstairs Connect – P7

We welcomed many P7 parents to Base 6's Carstairs Connect session on Tuesday this week, looking at extending children's number knowledge and how parents can support this – thank you to all who came along and entered into the spirit of the session. If you attended and have not yet returned the short feedback survey issued to you via email, please spare us a minute to complete. The survey will close at 9am on Monday. Thank you to Mrs Allan for her delivery of the session and to both Mrs Allan and Mrs Aitken for their work in preparing the materials used.


Those families who could not manage along on the day should have received a copy of the materials issued by now – if not, please ask your child to speak to their class teacher to ensure this makes its way home to you next week.

Industrial Action – Wednesday 08 November – Suspended

We have received notification that the strike planned for Wednesday 08 November will now be suspended to allow for Unison's consultation with its members. Strike action **will not go ahead** on Wednesday 08 November, as expected. **All children should attend school as normal on Wednesday 08 November.** Thank you.

Dates

- **Monday 06 November** – 6.30pm – Parent Partnership Meeting – All welcome
- **Saturday 11 November** – 10.00am – 12.15pm - Parent Partnership Winter Fundraiser (£1 adult entry / 50p child entry)
- **Monday 13 November** – In-service Day – School closed to all pupils
- **Wednesday 15 November** – 9.30am – P5 Class Showcase (Victorians)
- **Thursday 26 November** – 9.30am - P6 Carstairs Connect Session (attendance form will follow)
- **Friday 24 November** – Flu Immunisation day
- **Wednesday 13 December** -10am – Christmas Show Dress Rehearsal
- **Thursday 14 December** – AM – Whole School Christmas Extravaganza (details to follow)

Have a lovely weekend. 
Best wishes

Miss Sneddon, HT