

March 2024 Newsletter

After the February weekend, we shared that we would no longer be issuing a weekly newsletter or weekly email updates. From now on, we have a monthly news update and this will be shared on Parents Portal and our school website.

We are reducing the number of emails issued.

We expect all parents to keep themselves up to date with the updates shared on Parents Portal. **PLEASE** read the messages AND any letters attached to the messages.



#TeamCarstairs



School Clubs



Since we last update you, the following after school clubs have taken place in our school:

- **P6 & P7 Netball** – thank you very much to Mrs Aitken for running this
- **P1, P2 and P3 Wheelie Sessions in our MUGA** – thank you very much Mrs Whitehead for running this
- **P4 & P5 Basketball, P2 & P3 Multi Sports** – we thank Alan, our favourite Active Schools Coach for his support here
- **P6 & P7 Cross Country** – thank you and well done to Miss Colligan for leading this and to Mrs Guthrie for supporting
- **P5, P6 & P7 Dance Club** – we were fortunate to have Leah from Cherry Dance support us with this – thank you, Leah
- **P4 & P5 Drama Club** – thank you very much Mrs Hunter for fulfilling this requested role - great job

Parental Engagement




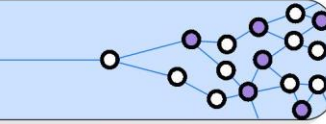
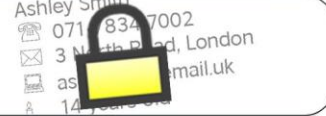


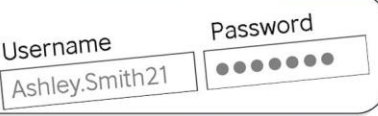


Since we last updated you, we have welcomed family members for the following events:

- **P5 Carstairs Connect** – Parents working with P5 children to develop the skill of telling the time
- **P2/3 Class Showcase** – Parents hearing from P2/3 about little snippets of their People Who Help Us learning
- **P7 Class Assembly** – Parents watching P7 share a little of their learning about World War Two, using Drama as a way to communicate key learning
- **P6 Class Showcase** – Parents hearing about skills children are developing in class and then trying some of these out in a STEM challenge, designing and creating playground equipment
- **Base 1 and Base 2 – Book and Biccie Sessions** – parents of our youngest children were invited into school to share children’s book bags, and have a little snack while they were at it 😊

Thank you to all adults who attended these events – our Carstairs Connect sessions and Showcases have been well attended this term, once again

We were DELIGHTED with the excellent turn out and very strong engagement on PARENTS’ EVENING too – thank you for coming along

8 tips to stay safe online

- 1 Be nice to people online. 
- 2 Take care with what you share. 
- 3 Keep personal information private. 
- 4 Check your privacy settings. 
- 5 Know how to report posts. 
- 6 Keep your passwords safe. 
- 7 Never meet anyone in person you've only met online. 
- 8 If you see anything online that you don't like or you find upsetting, tell someone you trust. 

Internet Safety - Parent Session

We held an internet safety session for parents at the end of February, led by local community policeman, PC Legatte.

The session was informative, and eye opening, with plenty of food for thought.

Thank you to PC Leggate for delivering this for us and to all parents who managed to come along - feedback from our participants suggests that they found the session worthwhile.

If anyone would like access to the videos that PC Leggate used in support of his messages, please get in touch and we will be happy to share.

Our polytunnel is finally up!

After a long time saving and fundraising, we finally have our school polytunnel constructed on site and it is almost ready to have each class begin growing fruit and vegetables, after the Spring Break. Thank you so much to all who have contributed in both large and small ways, to helping us secure the funding for this. We are sure this new resource will help our children have lots of fun and learn many new skills and facts.



We would now like to trim the outside with some artificial grass (2 sides only). If you can help with supply or fit, or both, please get in touch.

British Science Week

Generation Science Workshops

We were thrilled to welcome our colleagues from **Generation Science** into school to lead all of our classes in some very exciting and informative workshops during British Science Week this month. Children's **engagement** levels were high and their **enjoyment** of the sessions hugely evident. Generation Science colleagues commented very favourably on what a great school we have and how well our learners engaged with them. **Well done to all.**

We would NOT be able to afford to buy in special curricular events like this without the fundraising that you contribute to through our school events and Parent Partnership fundraising. Thank you so much to all for helping us secure these experiences for our learners.



Out of School Events

We are proud of all P6 and P7 pupils involved in Clydesdale Cross Country event at Lanark Racecourse this month. They showed FANTASTIC can do attitudes, determination and resilience. Well done to all children and thank you to all staff who supported this event.

We are proud of all P5, P6 and P7 pupils involved in this year's Active School's Dance Festival at Lanark Memorial Hall – their energy and enthusiasm shone through. Well done girls – we are so proud of you.

Our awesome cross country runners

Huge thanks to our Parent Partnership for organising and donating our wonderful new sporting t-shirts for use at special sporting events – they are brilliant. Our team certainly looked the part! 😊

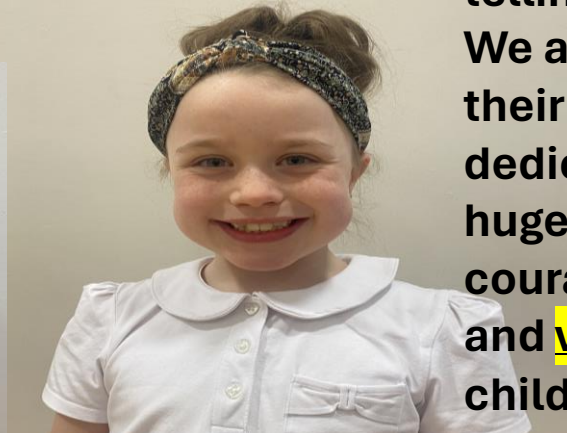
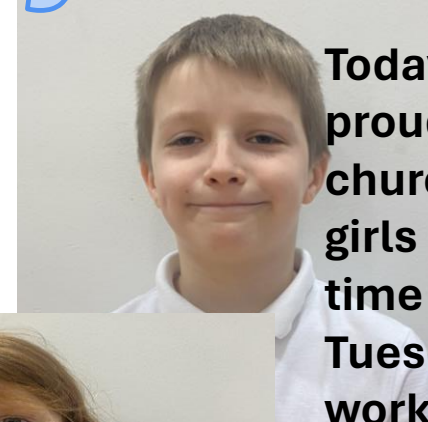


Our amazing dancers

Our girls did not let the big venue and huge audience phase them one bit - their confidence really shone through and got the night off to a great start!



Our Easter Story Stars



Today we were very proud to present in church the boys and girls who gave up their time after school on a Tuesday to come and work with Mrs Hunter on the special drama that was shared for our service this morning, telling the Easter story. We are so proud of their team work, their dedication and their huge effort and courage. Thank you and **very** well done, children! 😊

Community Kindness

We are very lucky to have once again benefitted from the **kindness of Carstairs Parish Church**. Last week we were gifted a special **little hand knitted lamb** for every child, containing a **little chocolate treat each**. We know the time and effort that goes into making these and we are very grateful indeed for this kindness and generosity. **Our children will bring their little Easter treats home today.**

We are also very thankful to have received special **'SHANARRI Calamari'** - special little **handmade octopus characters** that we will use to help each class learn more about being **safe, healthy, active, nurtured, achieving, responsible, respected** and **included**. We are so happy to have had this very special resource **made especially for us, by our local Knit and Natter group**. The care and kindness you show us means the world to us - **thank you.**





Enterprise Morning

We are grateful to all who were able to come along and show support for this small fundraising event today. All proceeds go straight to our school fund for the benefit of our children. Thank you very much for all contributions, whether these were made in person or via pupil pockets!

Special thanks to our Parent Helpers, mucking in with teas and coffees in our hall - we appreciate your time and graft! 😊



Term 3 has been VERY busy with a great deal going on - far too much to capture here! 😊

Well done to all children on the significant progress made from January until now and thank you to all staff and parents for the hard work and effort and team work that has gone in to making the term a productive and successful one.

To avoid the need for duplication, we will issue all relevant dates for term 4 on Monday 15 April. In the meantime, we share the first one you need to remember - Monday 15 April - our return from Spring Break date! 😊 Wishing one and all a lovely break. Take care and have fun.

HAPPY EASTER