

August 2024

Newsletter



#TeamCarstairs

We are delighted with the start made to the school year by all classes. Well done to all. 

Our August Newsletter will provide you with a little information on the following:

- ❖ Our **FABULOUS** new P1's and their P7 Buddies!
- ❖ Our **SENSATIONAL** new House Captains & Vice Captains
- ❖ Staffing for our classes and cover in our school office
- ❖ Priorities for the year ahead
- ❖ Child Protection - Our roles in keeping children safe
- ❖ A selection of dates for the year ahead

Our new P1 cohort are settling in beautifully, with P7 doing a fabulous job of helping. ❤️



Making new friends.....

HUGE congratulations to our wonderful new House Captains and Vice Captains

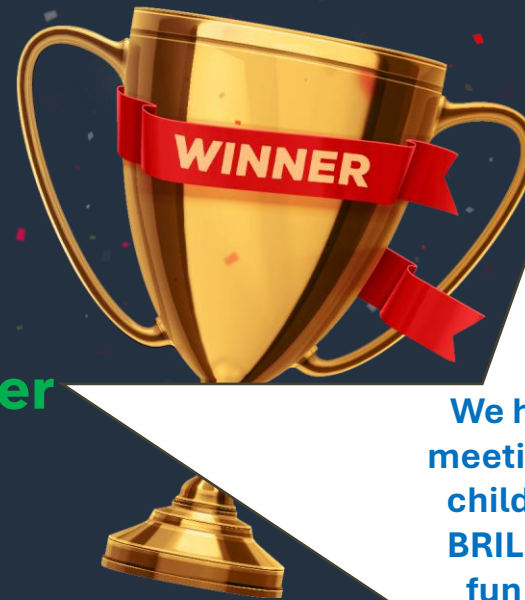
Monteith Captain - Xavier Lewis
Monteith Vice Captain - Jessica Turner

Castledykes Captain - Lucas Wilson
Castledykes Vice Captain - Isabella Walker

Clyde Captain - Millie White
Clyde Vice Captain - Abi Davidson

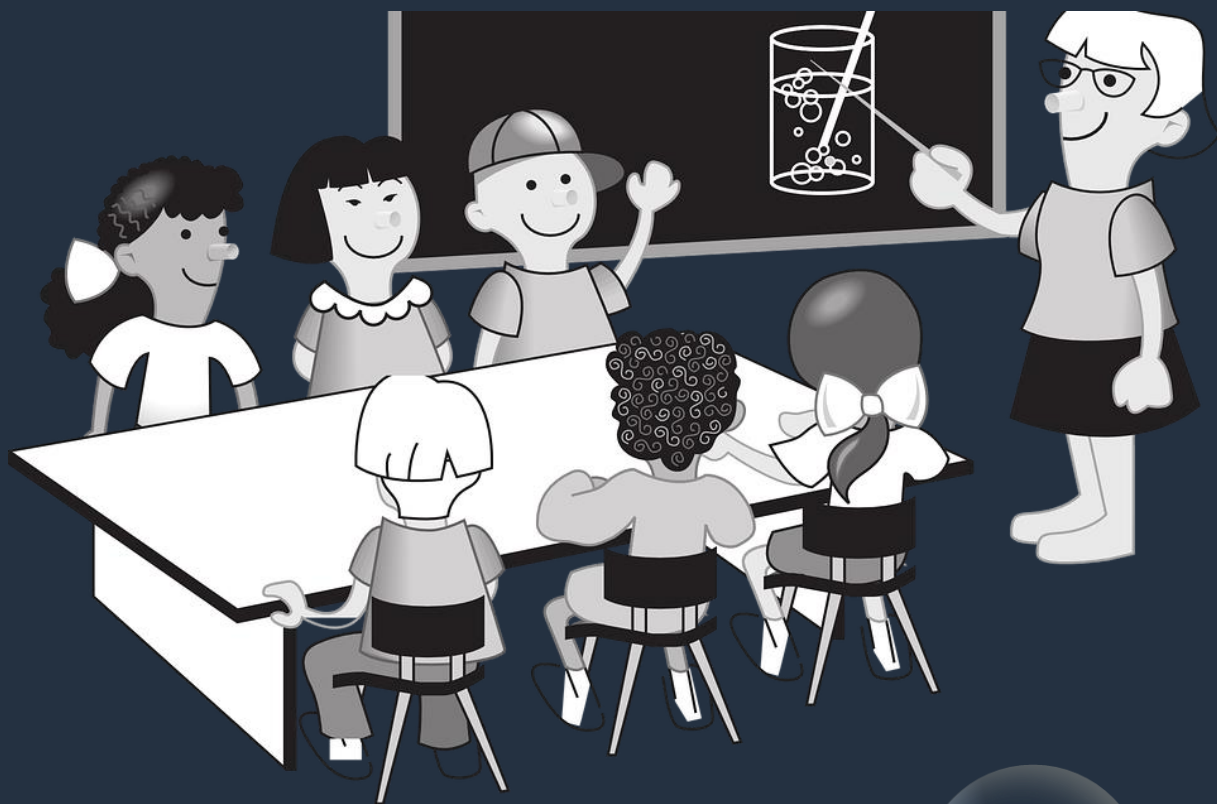
Tinto House Captain - Jessica McConnachie
Tinto Vice Captain - Conor Straub & Conor McQuigg

(photos of all to follow)



We had a great first meeting today – these children have some **BRILLIANT** ideas for fun things to take forward for all this year – watch this space!

Teachers / classes 2024/25



We are delighted to confirm the following staffing for the school session ahead:

Base 1 - P1/2 - Mrs Whitehead and Mrs Hardie

Base 2 - P2/3 - Mrs Hodge

Base 4 - P4/5 - Miss Colligan

Base 5 - P5/6 - Mrs Allan and Miss Watson

Base 6 - P6/7 - Mrs Guthrie

It has taken a little longer than we would have hoped to have this *fully* finalised, but we are very pleased that early this week saw things fully settle - and we were delighted to have our teaching staff complement in full attendance for this first time this session, yesterday and today! Long may it continue! 😊

Support Staff 2024/25



This year has seen a reduction of ten hours in the Support Staff hours that we have in our school. This means 10 hours less of support in and for our classes.

To try and go some way to compensate for this, I have allocated some office hours to classes - to prioritise support for our children and classes.

This means that there will be times within the school day and over breaks, that our office is not manned. Please bear this in mind if calling - leave a message on our answering machine and we will get back to you as soon as we can.

We hope you agree that prioritising support for our children's learning should always come top of our to do list!

School Improvement Priorities 2024/25

Together we can achieve great things! 😊



Ongoing key priorities this year are:

Curriculum development

(Check out our Curriculum Rationale on our school website if you haven't already read it! 😊)

We will give special focus to wellbeing and inclusion, as well as literacy.

Highest standards of Learning, Teaching & Assessment

We will continue to give a special focus to practitioner enquiry and using data to inform action at classroom level.

Sustainability, Creativity & Employability

We will continue to further enhance entrepreneurship, creativity and skills for learning life and work - whole school events and initiative and ongoing play development will help us to do this.

Equity - Closing the Gap & Raising Attainment

We will continue to have a strong focus on achieving highest possible levels of attendance for all learners and overcoming barriers to learning.

Child Protection – It's Everyone's Job

I (HT) continue to fulfil the role of **Child Protection Co-ordinator** in our school. All staff report any issues or concerns that arise straight to me for further action and liaison with other agencies, as required.

A reminder for all families and community members that you do not need to wait until school is in to report any issues of this nature that you become aware of – families can contact relevant services themselves and any issues linked to Child Protection will be treated with the high regard and care they deserve.

Parents and community members can: • Call the Police directly • Call Social Work directly.

The telephone numbers, and more information, can be found on the link below:

[Public Information - Child Protection \(childprotectionsouthlanarkshire.org.uk\)](http://childprotectionsouthlanarkshire.org.uk)

Dates for your diary.....

We will have *many* more dates to add - please see below for starters! More are noted on our website calendar.

- **Monday 16 September** - 7.00 - 8.30pm Parent Partnership AGM - school hall – all welcome
- **Friday 20 September** - Sponsored event for P6 and P7 to raise money for their Lockerbie experience - (details of event to be finalised with P6 and P7 and letter to be issued next week)
- **Monday 23 September** – School Photos – John Wilson Photography in AM
- **Wednesday 25 September – 9.30 – 10.30am - CARSTAIRS CONNECT – In school Parent & Child session for P1, P2 and P3** – we hope that we can achieve a full house with all P1, P2 and P3 children having a parent in attendance
- **Friday 27 and Monday 30 September** - September Weekend – School closed
- **Thursday 10 October** 3.30 - 7.30pm Parents' Evening (10 minute appointments, as normal)
- **Monday 14 – Friday 18 October** – School closed for October Break
- **Friday 25 October** - Halloween Disco in school hall (6.00 – 7.00 or 7.15 – 8.15 age dependant)
- **Thursday 12 December AM** - Christmas Extravaganza -- all children involved - ticketed event in school
- **Thursday 19 December** - 10.00 am - Carol singing + coffee morning - school hall – all welcome
- **Wednesday 19 March AM** - Cross Country Event P6 and P7 at Lanark Race Course
- **Tuesday 25 OR Wednesday 26 March** – Upper School Dance Festival – evening event at Lanark Memorial Hall
- **Parents' Evening 2** - 3.30 - 7.30pm - Thursday 27 March
- **Thursday 03 April** - AM - Easter Service and Enterprise Morning (Art Gallery) – Carstairs Parish Church and in school – all welcome
- **WC 28 April** - P6 and P7 Outdoor residential week to Lockerbie - Mon to Fri
- **Friday 06 June** - AM - School Sports
- **Thursday 19 June** - 6pm - P7 Leavers' Event
- **Monday 23 June** – 9.30 - Whole School Summer Celebration – school hall – all welcome

hello

weekend



Warm thanks for
your continued
support for our
school.

Have a great
weekend....see
you in September!

