



Calside News

3rd November 2023

Severe Weather

Please remember that we live in Scotland, and the weather is highly variable. Your child should be prepared for all weathers, with suitable outdoor clothing and shoes. It is very unpleasant to sit in class in soggy clothes or damp feet all day.

As we head into winter, please ensure we have your up-to-date contact details in order that you receive any messages.

UNISON day of industrial action 8th November

All parents/carers should have received an email from John Thin to confirm that all schools and nurseries will be closed on Wednesday 8th November. Staff will prepare some ideas for home learning and will share these on Tuesday.

Remembrance Day 11th November

As Remembrance Day falls on a Saturday this year, we will be exploring Remembrance in assembly rather than our usual commemoration of the 2-minute silence. The Pupil Council will be selling poppies up to Remembrance Day: please send a donation if your child wishes to buy one. The recommended amount from Poppy Scotland is £1.



Children in Need Friday 17th November

We will be raising money for Children in Need with a "Pyjama Day" in school: children are invited to come to school in their jammies, or non-uniform if they prefer, and parents are asked to make a donation to Children in Need that day. The Pupil Council will organise some Pudsey Fun in school.

Halloween activities

Many thanks to the Pupil Council for organising our creepy activities in school; to the Parent Council for providing the prizes; and to all the parents for the huge effort with costumes and Halloween decorations. The winners and all the costumes can be found on each Weekly Wakelet. We had a spook-tacular time!



The Pupil Council feel everyone should be able to have a costume if they want one so they would like to make a wee appeal for costume donations. If your child is growing out of their costume, or if you find you cannot use it again next year, please send to school so that someone else can make use of it.

Learner Conferences



Learner Conferences will be held on Wednesday 22nd and Thursday 23rd November. You will find guidance to the learner conferences in this week's maildrop as well as a reply slip for you to indicate your preferred date/time. It is essential that any reply slips are sent back promptly in order to allow for staff to co-ordinate times. Appointment times will then be sent out.

Christmas Activities

We will be sending out details for the Christmas performances shortly, along with information for ordering tickets. Dates can be found on the attached sheet as well as on the school website in the Dates section. Further details as to all the Christmas activities and arrangements will be sent soon.

After-School Clubs

We do not run after-school clubs during this term, as we are so busy with all the festive activities. The Play Leaders will be running lots of clubs in school time for morning break and lunchtime, and Active Schools offer a wide range of activities. Details about their current offer can be seen on their Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/NithsdaleASCS>

Dates for your Diary



Please see the diary dates for this term attached. These are as they currently stand. Please remember and that dates can also be found on the school website "Calside Courier" as well as in the Weekly Wakelets for each class.

Busy Bees



Some very Busy Bees during Term 1: please see the Well Dones below. We love hearing about all their successes, and their wider activities are such an important part of their learning journey: please keep telling us about them!

Well done to:

All the pupils who made Halloween decorations and pumpkins: some amazing creations!

Freddie Dickson was Player of the Month for his rugby team;

Jack Drennan has been looking after the plants at home, and has kept them all alive (advice on how to do this would be greatly appreciated in my house)!

Emily Gibson achieved her half-marathon badge at Park Run;

Ben Gilmour-Graham is participating in a curling competition, and is currently in 3rd place;

Douglas Haggarty and Stewart Henderson competed in a rugby tournament at Strathaven, and their team won;

Jak Kippen has improved his personal best on the Rubik's Cube (he can help me: I still can't solve it)!

Lennon Kuehnel has been playing a lot of rugby, with a lot of successes;

Sophie McCaulay has now done more than 60 Park Runs, and is working towards 100!

Finn McKinnell got a chance to see behind the scenes of Dumfries and Galloway hospital laboratories as part of Harvey's Gang, taking part in science experiments and using the special equipment.

Cameron Murdoch won a free trip to Edinburgh Zoo after competing in a drawing competition;

Chloe Parker won the DGOne colouring competition for her category;

Calvin Pettigrew is playing in the Men's team for Hockey, and got an assist for a goal;

Grayson Ramage rode 100km in September on his pony Beau in a challenge called, 'Canter for a cure', raising a huge £470 for Bone Cancer Research Trust. Amazing achievement!

Olivia Rice and Iris Robertson have been selected for training with the Nithsdale Netball Squad;

David Rogerson walked more than 100 miles in a month for Maggie's Cancer Care. He has now helped raise more than £2000 for cancer charities in the past two years!

Ezekiel Samuels played for the Under 13 team at rugby and they won 21-17;

Taylor Smith was awarded Star of the Day at Let's Get Sporty;

Ethan Strawbridge has started tennis club;

Dominik Vereb has been mountain-biking and learning how to jump!

Alfie Watson won the Alistair McLean shield for golfing.

Brilliant Beavers, Brownies and Cubs:

Daisy Brown and Hannah Hogg have started Brownies: Daisy earned a squirrel group badge and Hannah earned a dolphin group badge; Lewis Scott earned Beaver of the Week; Rory Bruce and William Dobie earned their Teamwork badge at Cubs.

Delightful Dancing:

Amelia Black, Lacey McVittie, Mia O'Toole and Fergie Watson have moved up levels in dancing; Katie Dobie and Hollie Lees are performing dances at Easterbrook Hall; Katie Dobie passed her recent Ballet exam; Ella Haggarty, Emily Gibson and Fergie Watson performed in the Danceworks show "When I Grow Up".

Fantastic Footballers:

Louis Barr, Hunter Boyd, Harris Cunliffe, Jack Little and Zach Service played their first 11-a-side match; Olly Bisset, Cammy MacBeth, Mason Morrison and Owen Walden competed in the Caskie Cup, and their team made the final; Ethan Bruce and Blair Cunliffe moved into the 2015's team at Heston football; Alex Boyer, Quinn Gordon, Daniel Hamilton and Cameron Murdoch earned a medal at football for completing their certificate targets over 12 weeks; Archie Hamilton debuted in his new team; Findlay Jacques earned a certificate for scoring goals at football; Cammy MacBeth and Mason Morrison's team beat Cumbernauld; David Rogerson was Player of the Month.

Facing their Fears:

Sophie Adamson brushed and petted a horse; Blair Cunliffe watched an ice-hockey match; Noah Donowho went up Blackpool Tower.

Great Gymnastics:

Evie Alison and Evie McDonald competed at DG1 and place high in different apparatus; Darcy Bell, Lily Graham, Demi-Louise Lamont, Olivia Rice and Kara Wells competed at Y gymnastics, and all placed high in different apparatus- a lot of medals! Lacey Campbell landed a cartwheel on the beam for the first time; Evie Dunlop competed in a competition at her gymnastics; Lily Graham earned the Most Improved gymnast at the Y; Ella Haggarty and Emily Haining trialled for their competition squads in gymnastics, and Ella also got a trophy for endeavour; Demi-Louise Lamont also won a trophy for endeavour; Aleenah Mannan won a trophy for her gymnastics; Aveliese Bowthorpe, Poppy Davidson, Lucy Johnston, Jade Lorimer, Evie McDonald, Lillie McDonald, Olivia McDonald, Lacey McVittie, Sophia Moonie, Sadie Morrison, Rachel Tennant, Eden Windsor and Sophie Weir have passed levels at gymnastics.

More gymnastic competitions coming up: we look forward to hearing what fun they all have!

Incredible Ice-Skating:

Alyssa Jackson, Lucy Johnston, Jade Lorimer and Mia O'Toole passed their levels in ice-skating; Lucy Johnston has learnt how to do backwards crossovers at ice skating; Noah Donowho and Dominik Vereb are learning how to ice-skate.

Marvellous Martial Arts:

Jude Currie received an award for his commitment and dedication; Ollie Arnold and Alice Kirkpatrick moved up a level in Karate; Sam David passed his yellow belt; Noah Donowho and Ethan Lees passed brown belt; Blair McCole earned his blue stripe belt; Lacey McVittie passed white belt to purple belt.

Super Swimmers:

Sophie Adamson, Darcy Bell, Amelia Black, Annie Boyd, Thomas Dunlop, Archie Gray, Ella Haggarty, Keir Hope, Finlay Jacques, Jade Lorimer, Blair McCole, Layla McGill, Mia O'Toole, Georgia Ross, Lewis Weir, Sophie Weir and Eden Windsor moved up a level in swimming; Thomas Dunlop won a medal for his breaststroke; Logan Milligan won a medal for his swimming and earned Best in Class; Noah Donowho can now do breaststroke; Blair McCole dived from 1.8 metres; Cayden MacKail has learned backstroke; Ben Murray has learned butterfly stroke.

Terrific Twirling:

Lacey McVittie received Star of the week at Baton twirling for not letting the baton drop; Mia O'Toole won a trophy at Baton Twirling for coming 1st place in the pre-beginner overall winner.

Wow! The children were all very proud of their achievements when we talked about them in class.