



WELCOME BACK!

August 2026 Family Newsletter

Dream it, Believe it, Achieve it!

RESPECT • RESPONSIBILITY • HONESTY • COOPERATION

A welcome from the Head Teacher

Dear families,

It was delightful to welcome all our pupils back to Caldercuil and to meet the children who are new to our school and nursery. Everyone looked so smart, happy and ready to be back. The calm, cheerful way in which the children have settled has been a wonderful start to our new session.

A particularly warm welcome goes to our new Primary 1 children and their families. Starting school is a very special milestone, and we are committed to making the transition happy, positive and reassuring. Please remember that no question is too small—our staff are here to help you and your child feel confident and included.

This is an especially exciting year as Caldercuil celebrates its 50th anniversary. Throughout the session, pupils will be at the heart of researching our history and planning a wealth of activities for the school, nursery and wider community. Please watch this space—we look forward to celebrating with you!

I look forward to working in partnership with you throughout the year.

Warm regards,
Gail Palmarini
Head Teacher

Keep in touch

School office: 0141 945 0633

Head Teacher: Headteacher@caldercuil-pri.glasgow.sch.uk

School news and updates: <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/gc/caldercuil/>



A helpful start for new families

School day

School begins at 9.00 am and finishes at 3.00 pm. Morning break is 10.30–10.45 am and lunch is 12.15–1.00 pm. Please help children arrive on time so they can settle calmly into the day.

The first two weeks

Classes will spend time getting to know one another, exploring interests and establishing routines, expectations and class charters. Children will revisit Caldercuil's values and aims and work together to create safe, welcoming classrooms where everyone can create, learn and explore.

Children will also be allocated to, or reminded of, their House group. Primary 7 pupils will put themselves forward for election as House Captains and Vice Captains.

Our school values

Our values remain the same

RESPECT • RESPONSIBILITY • HONESTY • COOPERATION

These values guide how we learn, work and treat one another across our school and nursery community.

Primary 1 Stay and Play

Primary 1 families are warmly invited to a Stay and Play session on Thursday 1 October 2026. Further information will be shared by the Primary 1 team.

Uniform

Our school uniform is grey trousers, shorts or skirt; a white/pale blue shirt or polo shirt; a royal blue and yellow tie; and a royal blue cardigan or sweatshirt. Please note that our uniform is not black. Children should come to school in PE clothing only on their PE days; class teachers will share these dates.

Ready for every day

- Please send a waterproof jacket and sensible footwear, as children learn and play outdoors in a range of weather.
- A named change of clothes is helpful for all children and for any accidents or wet-weather play.
- Please label clothing, bags, bottles and belongings clearly with your child's name.
- Order school lunches through ParentPay to help avoid confusion or upset.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club runs from 8.00–9.00 am, with the last breakfast served at 8.45 am. Children attending should enter through the main school door and go directly to the hall.

After School Club

Summerston after school club runs out of St Blanes primary school daily and operates between 3-6pm to support working families. Children who are attending will be collected at Caldercuil at 3pm and escorted down to St Blanes Primary. If you would like further information, please contact Brian on 07846700375.



How we will communicate with families

Showbie

We will continue to use Showbie to support classroom learning and to communicate information through the class discussion feature. Pupils will join their new digital class and receive a new QR code and login details for access from home.

Mr Adam will run an information session on Showbie for parents in the school hall on Tuesday 25th August 3pm. Please see separate communication to sign up.

Important change from August 2026

We will no longer use separate parent/family Showbie accounts. Families should log in using the same QR code or login details as their child. Class discussion pages are visible only through pupil accounts, so this will ensure you can see all class communications. If you have more than one child at Caldercuilt Primary School or Nursery, you will need to log out and log in separately for each child.

Seesaw

From August 2026 we will also use Seesaw as a protected space for sharing school media. Access is limited to school families through a parental code provided by class teachers. Teachers will post snapshots of classroom learning, and families will be able to respond with likes and comments. Please remember that any comment you post will be visible to all students and families in that class space.

Homework

Our homework policy is currently being reviewed. Homework will begin in September, and families will receive updated guidance before it starts.

Wider achievement

We love celebrating children's achievements beyond school and nursery. Please encourage your child to tell their teacher about sporting successes, local clubs, personal interests or any achievement that matters to them. Certificates, medals and trophies may be brought in to share with the class or at assembly and to feature on our Wider Achievement Wall.

Working with families

We are always keen to welcome parents and carers who can support activities or share skills and interests. Volunteers must be PVG checked; the school can arrange this. Please contact Headteacher@caldercuilt-pri.glasgow.sch.uk if you would like to become involved.

Caldercuilt Parent council

Our Parent Council meets regularly throughout the year, everyone is welcome and we look forward to hearing your views and ideas. We thank our parent council for organising fund raising events and supporting activities and our learning. To contact our parent council please email them at caldercuiltparentcouncil@hotmail.com



Learning, rights and pupil voice

Our Rights Respecting journey

Children's rights are at the heart of everything we do at Caldercuilt. We are proud to be working towards our Silver Rights Respecting Schools Award, helping children understand their rights, respect the rights of others and have their voices heard.

During Term 1, each class will create a Class Charter by exploring the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and agreeing on how everyone's rights will be respected and upheld. Our Rights Respecters will support this work and keep families updated throughout the year.



Reviewing our vision and aims

Our school vision and aims are being reviewed. Pupils shared their feedback in June, and staff and families will be consulted over the coming weeks. Please look out for the opportunity to share your thoughts and ideas.

Caldercuilt Nursery

A very warm welcome back to all our nursery children and families, and a special welcome to those joining Caldercuilt Nursery Class for the first time. This term, we will focus on building positive relationships, becoming familiar with new routines and learning to work collaboratively. Through active outdoor play, children will develop their larger muscles and physical movements, helping to strengthen the fine motor skills needed for tasks such as drawing and writing. We will continue to use responsive planning, ensuring that children's voices, choices and changing interests shape their learning. Together, we will create mind maps that we revisit every two weeks as new ideas and interests emerge. As we enjoy outdoor learning in all weathers, please ensure your child brings suitable clothing for the weather and a full change of clothes each day.

Learning experiences

CREATE Youth Music Initiative (YMI)

Nicola Stevenson will work fortnightly with all Primary 1 and Primary 2 classes, beginning on Thursday 27 August in the afternoon. Through CREATE YMI, children will enjoy high-quality, practical music-making experiences that build confidence, creativity, listening and collaboration

Rookie Rockstars

Rookie Rockstars will work with pupils in November through energetic music sessions that use original songs and performance to promote confidence, resilience, friendship and positive choices. The programme will lead to a family concert on Wednesday 11 November 2026 at 6.30 pm. All families are invited; ticket and event details will follow.

Commonwealth Games inspiration

Some families may have been fortunate enough to attend the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow this summer. We are delighted that a Commonwealth athlete will visit Caldercuilt on Tuesday 6 October to meet classes and deliver an assembly.

Primary 6 residential

Primary 6 pupils have an exciting residential outdoor learning experience at Blairvadach from Wednesday 26 to Friday 28 August. We wish them a safe, enjoyable and memorable trip. They will be accompanied by Mr Stewart Adam and Miss Collette McDonald.



Our School Improvement Plan 2026–2027

Each year, we identify the areas that will make the greatest difference to children's learning, wellbeing and experiences. Our School Improvement Plan for 2026–2027 is organised around three connected priorities: Progress, Wellbeing and Inclusion.

Our three priorities

PROGRESS • WELLBEING • INCLUSION

Together, these priorities support our commitment to high-quality learning, nurturing relationships, children's rights, equity and belonging.

Caldercuilt Primary School and Nursery Class

School Improvement Plan 2026 - 2027

Progress:

Consistent high quality assessment driving progress and accelerating progress through quality numeracy teaching



Wellbeing:

Thriving whole-school wellbeing culture



Inclusion:

A culture of equity and belonging



Develop a consistent whole-school approach to high quality holistic assessment that enables all learners to demonstrate breadth, challenge and application through meaningful learner centred assessment experiences.

Accelerate children's progress in numeracy through consistent high quality pedagogy.

Strengthen a whole school culture where rights, nurturing relationships and meaningful participation enable children, staff and families to flourish. Through consistent, evidence-informed approaches, we will promote positive wellbeing, resilience and belonging, ensuring every member of our school community feels safe, valued, respected and supported.

Strengthen a whole school culture of inclusion where diversity is recognised, respected and celebrated. Through high-quality learning, inclusive practice and meaningful pupil leadership, all learners will develop the knowledge, empathy and confidence to value difference, challenge discrimination and ensure every member of the school community feels safe, respected represented and included.

Throughout the year, we will share updates with families about the actions being taken and the difference these priorities are making for learners. Children, staff and families will continue to have opportunities to contribute their views and help shape improvement across our school and nursery.

Children's Working Parties

Every child will also identify with and join a Children's Working Party focused on improving our school. There will be seven groups, each bringing together children from Primary 1 to Primary 7 so they can share ideas, learn from one another and work collaboratively.

Children will vote for the areas they believe should be represented and will then select their first three choices. Each child will be hopefully allocated to one of their three chosen Working Party groups. Groups could include a Grounds Gang, a Rights Respecting Group or an Events Planning Group, alongside other priorities chosen by the children. This will ensure that pupil voice remains central to planning and leading positive change at Caldercuilt.



Key dates for your diary

Date	Event
25 August 2026, 3pm	Showbie information session for parents
26–28 August 2026	Primary 6 Blairvadach residential
September 2026	Homework begins; updated guidance will be issued
Wednesday 30 September 2026	Macmillan Coffee Morning
Thursday 1 October 2026	Primary 1 Stay and Play
Tuesday 6 October 2026	Commonwealth athlete visit and assembly
Thursday 22 October 2026	Parents' Evening
Wednesday 11 November 2026, 6.30 pm	Rookie Rockstars family concert
Wednesday 9 December 2026	School Flu immunisation
Thursday 10 December 2026	School Nativity
Thursday 25 February 2027	Parents' Evening

Term and holiday dates

September weekend: Friday 25 and Monday 28 September 2026

In-service day: Friday 9 October 2026

October Week: Monday 12–Friday 16 October 2026

Christmas closure: School closes at 2.30 pm on Friday 18 December 2026; holidays Monday 21 December 2026–Monday 4 January 2027

Return: Tuesday 5 January 2027

February mid-term: Monday 15 and Tuesday 16 February 2027; in-service day Wednesday 17 February

Easter weekend: Friday 26 and Monday 29 March 2027

Spring holiday: School closes at 2.30 pm on Friday 2 April; break Monday 5–Friday 16 April; return Monday 19 April

May dates: Monday 3 May holiday; Thursday 6 May in-service day (subject to change); Friday 28 and Monday 31 May holiday

Summer closure: School closes at 1.00 pm on Friday 25 June 2027

Full dates: <https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/article/4276/School-Term-Dates>



Staffing 2026–2027

We are pleased to introduce the staff team who will support our children and families this session.

Senior Leadership Team

Head Teacher: Mrs Gail Palmarini

Depute Head Teacher: Miss Jillian Ferguson

Principal Teacher P4–7: Mr Stewart Adam

Acting Principal Teacher Nursery, P1–3: Mrs Deborah Cannon

Early Years Team Leader: Mrs Victoria McDonald

Teaching Staff

Primary 1: Mrs Deborah Cannon / Mrs Denise MacQueen

Primary 2: Miss Chloe Bell

Primary 3: Mrs Caitlin Burke

Primary 4: Mrs Gail Hewitt

Primary 5: Mr Alistair Hamilton / Mr Stewart Adam

Primary 6: Miss Emma McMullen

Primary 7: Miss Denise McEwan

Early Learning and Childcare

PEF CDO: Mrs Elaine Keiller (school based)

Nursery CDOs: Mrs Joanne McDonald, Mrs Lynne Lindsay, Mrs Carol Milroy

Support Staff

Support for Learning: Mrs Michelle Miller, Mrs Ann Cannon, Miss Kim Allison, Miss Colette McDonald, Miss Fahimeh Zandi and Mrs Lisa Souley

Clerical: Miss Davena Campbell and Mrs Margaret Clunie

Janitorial: Mr Harry Monaghan

Staffing update

We send our warmest congratulations to Mrs Caitlin Burke, who got married during the summer. We wish her every happiness for the future.

We are also delighted to extend a very warm welcome to Miss Bell, Mr Hamilton, Mrs MacQueen, Mrs Lindsay and Mrs Milroy. We hope they will be very happy as part of the Caldercuilt team.

Mrs Deans begins her maternity leave this week. Although we will miss her greatly, we cannot wait to hear her exciting news and meet her new bundle of joy.



Safety, wellbeing and everyday reminders

School crossing patrol

Unfortunately, a replacement crossing patrol is not yet in place at the crossing on Invershiel Road in front of the school. Until a new person begins, our janitor, will continue to support children and families to cross safely when possible.

Arrival, collection and the car park

- For safety, children must not walk through the school car park on arrival or departure.
- The school car park is strictly for staff only.
- If your child will be absent, please use the absence line on 0141 287 0039 or contact the school office before 9.30 am. Any child missing from school will begin a formal process.

Phones and communication devices

Phones and communication devices, including Apple Watches and tablets, are not permitted for use during the school day. We understand that families may wish children to carry these expensive items for use after school; for everyone's safety, they will be collected and stored in the school office during the school day.

Medication

All medication brought to school must follow the correct procedures and be accompanied by completed paperwork. We can administer only prescribed medication that is clearly labelled with the child's name. Please contact the school office for support.

PE, jewellery and personal safety

Children should wear suitable, loose-fitting PE clothes and appropriate footwear on PE days. Glasgow City Council guidance aims to keep everyone safe during physical activity: children should be able to remove their own jewellery, and nail extensions should not be worn on PE days.

Spare clothes and wet weather

As children are outdoors every day, please send weather-appropriate footwear and clothing. A named spare set of clothes is useful in case of accidents or very wet play.

Thank you

Thank you for helping us keep Caldercuilt safe, welcoming and ready for learning. We are excited for the year ahead and look forward to sharing it with every child and family.