



Together we will shine!

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year!

I hope all of our children and families had an enjoyable and relaxing break and the children have returned to school excited at the learning experiences that are coming up this term.

Transitions - Primary One Enrolment

Registration for infant beginners for session 2024/2025 takes place this week and it has been lovely to see so many new and familiar faces alike as we look ahead to next year.

Parents/carers can continue to enrol their child at the following times:

Thursday 18th January - 9.30am to 10.30am and 1.30pm to 2.30pm; and

Friday 19th January - 9.30am to 10.30am and 1.30pm to 2.30pm.

Transitions - Primary Seven

Our high school transition is well underway and children have been involved in a wide range of opportunities from enhanced transition visits and curricular experiences including Gaelic and PE. Further experiences in science and technology and visits from the pupil support team are planned.

Transitions - Leavers Celebrations

We will soon be consulting with our primary seven children regarding the events they would like during their Leavers Activity week beginning Monday 17th June. All activities are funded by the school and Parent Council at no cost to parents/carers and are in line with NLC and school Poverty Proofing Policies.

Children can collectively choose activities and design their week. Previous weeks have been full of activities such as: Archery, Arts & Crafts, Basketball, Beach Party/Disco, Just Dance, Picnic, Football, Mini - Golf, Movies, Nerf-War, Obstacle Course, Orienteering, Rounders, Tennis, Trip to Innoflate for a bounce and lunch, Picnic and a Play in local parks and a trip to our local McDonalds.

The week concludes with our highly anticipated staff versus children water fight!

As always, the children are able to select activities or places to visit which suit their interests and we actively encourage new ideas/places/activities. The feedback from previous years from both parents and children has been extremely positive outlining the cherished memories created during these weeks which will last a lifetime.

The Primary Seven Graduation is planned for Tuesday 11th of June at 10am. Parents/carers are more than welcome to attend this important lifetime event and stay for refreshments and photographs afterwards. At this assembly, the children will receive their Eastfield hoodies which are provided at no cost to families as they are fully funded by the Parent Council. I thank the Parent Council for their annual commitment to supporting this.

Ford Castle - Residential Outdoor Experience

It is almost a month until our Primary 7 children head off on their residential trip to Ford Castle. A letter including key information and a kit list were issued last week via Groupcall and parents/carers and Primary 7 children have been invited to an Information Evening on Tuesday 30th January, which is also the final date for payment (please contact the school if you have any issues regarding this). We are very much looking forward to the opportunities the children will have with this exciting new experience.

Christmas Concerts, Hampers & Santa's Sustainable Shopping

A huge thank you to everyone who came along to our Christmas events and/or purchased raffle tickets for our Christmas Hampers and to Primary 7, Primary 6 and all staff who helped to organise and support these events. I am pleased to advise that the sum of £4,253.27 was raised to support experiences, opportunities and resources for our children. Thank you for your generosity and support.

Attendance and Late-coming

A reminder that, if your child arrives after 9am (and before 9.15am), they should enter *via the P1 entrance* and, if they arrive after 9.15am, *they should enter via the Main Entrance having entered the school grounds via pedestrian access paths and not the school car park*. Attendance and late-coming are being closely monitored, in line with NLC requirements, as these have a marked effect on children's education.

Car Parking, Playground and Dogs

Thank you to everyone within our school community who has been helping us to prioritise the health and safety of our children. There has been a reduction in cars accessing the school car park and adults accessing the playground prior to 9am. We appreciate everyone's efforts in sourcing alternative arrangements and school staff have noticed the benefits to a number of our learners who are coming into school calmer and ready to learn. Please remember that dogs are not permitted within school grounds and parking permits can be obtained via the School Office (subject to criteria being met). The Breakfast Club is available from 8.15am without prior booking to support families with drop off arrangements and childcare.

Clyde in the Classroom

Mrs Dickson's Primary 5 class enjoyed their recent trip to Glasgow Science Centre to commence their Clyde in the Classroom Project. Their fish tank has been delivered and the children are looking forward to the challenge of nurturing their fish, which are scheduled to arrive on Monday. My thanks to all involved in supporting this project, including our parent helper Mrs Abid.

World of Work

As part of our ongoing role in developing the young workforce, our Primary 7 children will have the opportunity to work with the University of Strathclyde on an environmental engineering STEM project. This is a very exciting opportunity and we anticipate that the children will have some very rich experiences which will allow them to develop new skills through the opportunities of problem solving and conducting experiments in real labs within the university. Further details will follow in due course. A huge thank you to our parent Mrs Pytharouli for supporting this excellent project.

We are also very fortunate to have a visit from Screen Scotland (Wardpark Film & Television Studios) this term, where all children will get the opportunity

to participate in the pre-production roles, skills and qualities involved in the making of an animated film.

Samba Band Project

Our Primary 6 children have enjoyed the start of their Samba Band project. This will involve weekly drumming sessions and my thanks go to all involved in supporting this project.

Nonna's Kitchen Dullatur Partnership: Cooking Club

I am pleased to advise that we have entered into an exciting new partnership with Nonna's Kitchen Dullatur. This will involve groups of children having the opportunity to learn from and cook with their chefs (in our Cooking Kitchen). A pilot group has been identified and will commence this term, with a view to extending this to further groups in the future.

Sports

As always, we have a wide range of sporting activities planned prior to the Easter holidays. These include dance and fitness clubs and athletics, basketball, BMX, cross country, dance and handball events. My thanks go to all those involved in organising and supporting these events.

Following the completion of a successful pilot project, delivered in partnership with Scottish Cycling and Cumbernauld Centurions BMX Club, we have extended the "Rock Up & Ride" programme to cover all P5 children who expressed an interest in participating. Two further groups of P5s will enjoy BMX coaching sessions at Broadwood BMX Track and be gifted BMX bikes, helmets, pads and a year's free membership with Cumbernauld Centurions. My thanks go to all those involved in providing this fantastic opportunity for our children.

PE - Jewellery

Linked to sports, we have had some queries recently regarding the wearing of jewellery in PE. In this regard, we follow the NLC Physical Education Code of Practice, which has been in place for a number of years. The starting position is that no jewellery should be worn during PE. In the case of stud earrings, where these cannot be removed (either during the initial 6 week period from piercing or for some other legitimate reason) they can be covered (using plasters or other medical grade tape) by the child or parent in advance of the lesson; staff are not permitted to do this. Dangling/hooped earrings should not be worn, on health and safety grounds, as injuries can occur to the wearer or other

participants. These types of earrings cannot be covered and will need to be removed before participating in the lesson. I hope this helps to clarify our procedures and thank you for your support with this. Should you require any assistance in terms of PE days, please contact your child(ren's) class teacher who will be available to assist.

Assemblies/House Points

In order to create a further sense of school community we are bringing the whole school together at the beginning and end of each week through whole school assemblies. The themes of our assemblies are as follows; Monday assemblies are focussing on our school vision and values and having high expectations and Friday assemblies are focussing on celebrating success, which includes recognising the achievements of our children who have been demonstrating our school values of successful, happy, included, nurtured and engaged ("SHINE") through our new "Eastfield Allstar" awards.

Our house system plays a big part in the ethos of the school. There are a number of ways that our children can earn house points and these are collated weekly by our House Captains (Auchinbee: Mia & Joel; Carrickstone: Kaelyn & Thomas; Craiglinn: Emilia & Luke; and Mainhead: Stephanie & Sonny). The House with the most points at the end of each month will be able to come to school dressed down in their house colour for the day and have an extra playtime. The House that wins the overall House Championship will earn a treat at the end of the school year. Carrickstone are currently in the lead!

Classes also compete to be "Class of the Week" and in doing so receive an extra playtime as a reward. P1b are our current champions!

Class Assemblies

Class assemblies will start with P4a on Friday 26th January. Please see "Dates for the Diary" section later in this newsletter for the date for your child(ren's) class(es). These are not ticketed events and parents/carers from the class are more than welcome to attend. Please note that all assemblies will start at 11am and refreshments will be available afterwards.

Camping - Primary 6

We are looking forward to our annual P6 trip to Fordell Firs Scout HQ in Dunfermline which is taking place on Thursday 13th and Friday 14th June. Final payments for this trip are due on 31st March. Please contact the school if you have any queries regarding payments.

Titanic - Primary 5

We are looking forward to our annual P5 trip to Titanic, Belfast which is taking place on Thursday 25th April. Final payments for this trip are due on 5th February. Please contact the school if you have any queries regarding payments.

Parent Council

Parent Council meetings are accessible for all of the parent forum to attend should you wish. The dates for this session are as follows:

Dates
24 th January 2024
5 th March 2024
14 th May 2024

I hope that the information in this newsletter is useful and I wish you all best wishes for a happy and successful 2024!

Kindest regards

Mrs Lesley McPhee

Head Teacher

Dates for the Diary

January

Monday 15th to Friday 19th - P1 Enrolments

Thursday 18th January - Whole School Fitness Event

Friday 19th January - P1 & P2 Dance Event

Wednesday 24th January - Parent Council Meeting

Friday 26th - P4a Assembly

Tuesday 30th - P7 Ford Castle Trip Information Evening

February

Friday 2nd - Snapshots to Parents/Carers

Friday 9th - P1b Assembly

Monday 19th- Wednesday 21st Ford Castle Trip (P7)

Friday 23rd - P1a Assembly

March

Friday 1st - P4b Assembly

Tuesday 5th - Parent Council Meeting

Friday 8th - P2 Assembly

Tuesday 19th - P5 Titanic Trip Information Evening

Friday 22nd - P3 Assembly

April

Thursday 25th - P5 Titanic Trip

Friday 26th - P2/3 Assembly

May

Friday 3rd - Snapshots to Parents/Carers

Tuesday 14th - Parent Council Meeting

Friday 17th - P5b Assembly

Wednesday 22nd - Parent/Carer Consultations

Tuesday 28th - New P1 Information Meeting & Lunch

Thursday 30th - P6 Camping Trip Information Evening

Friday 31st - P5a Assembly

June

Friday 7th June - Reports to Parents/Carers

Tuesday 11th - Nursery & P7 Graduations & P6 "Stepping Up" Assembly

Thursday 13th- Friday 14th P6 Camping Trip

Monday 17th-Friday 21st P7 Leavers Activity Week

Sports Day (TBC)