



May 2026



Message from the Head Teacher



Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

It is hard to believe we are more than half-way through May already, but things in our school are certainly not slowing down! We still have lots of news and events to squeeze in, so taking time to read our newsletter is more important than ever! We are also sharing lots of information through our app, google classrooms and Parents' Portal so please keep in touch with us, so you don't miss anything!

Mrs Angela Gibson

Spotlight on Improvement

GROWTH MINDSET MANTRA FOR MAY: I'VE GOT THIS!

"The path to growth mindset is a journey, not a proclamation."

Carol Dweck



This is the final "monthly mantra" we have been sharing with our pupils, the final "words of wisdom" we will impart and the final activity we can all challenge them with.

We are talking about talking! Self-talking to be exact. Children need to understand the difference between the fixed mindset messages and the growth mindset messages they hear, so they can re-frame them and go on to overcome the challenges they face. For example, instead of saying, "I don't get this!" they could try saying "Can I look at this another way?"

Carol Dweck suggests that making a plan and visualising how you will carry it out will help you use a growth mindset when faced with failure and struggle, bad situations that can easily knock you off course when or if you let them. Make a plan with your child to help them learn or overcome something this summer! Perhaps learning to swim or ride their bike, or even to get through 3 books! Anything is possible!

As we reach the end this session and the work with our learners, it is important to recognise 2 key elements!

- *Everyone has a fixed mindset and a growth mindset:* this has never been about 'getting rid' of the fixed mindset as that would be impossible! Fixed mindsets will always be there. What we have hopefully helped to do is give learners the tools they need to use their growth mindset to help them improve.
- *This has never been a competition:* students have not been competing to see who has the best growth mindset. Hopefully this year has been more about recognising personal achievements and growth and giving praise where it is due!

KEEP REACHING FOR THE STARS!

Class Configurations 2026/2027

I am now able to share the proposed class configurations with you for August 2026. Please note, these are provisional and could change because of school enrolments, placing requests or another change in our staffing entitlement. We are yet to have some staff names confirmed. Until this happens, I am unable to place teachers with classes. This information will be provided to you on our whole school transition day (see further details below).

Stage	Room Number
Primary 1	Room 1
Primary 1	Room 2
Primary 1/2	Room 4
Primary 2	Room 3
Primary 3	Room 5
Primary 3	Room 6
Primary 4	Room 7
Primary 4	Room 8
Primary 5	Room 9
Primary 5	Room 10
Primary 6	Room 11
Primary 6	Room 12
Primary 7	Room 14
Primary 7	Room 15

Configuring Classes



It takes a very long time and lots of planning meetings to configure our classes. This is not something we take lightly. Pupils are grouped according to literacy groups first and foremost, meaning pupils who are working at broadly the same pace/level can work together. We do try to consider friendships, but we can never guarantee a child will be with their best friend.

We cannot accommodate requests, though we do consider unique situations we are already aware of. We would be extremely grateful for your trust and faith in our abilities to get it right for your child, while adhering to the limits and regulations in place.



Composite Classes

You will see that we have one composite next session, which is extremely rare, and there is a high likelihood this may change. If this does happen, please be assured that these are a necessary part of our configuration and are a feature of most primary schools in Scotland. Our staffing is based on the total school role, regardless of numbers at each stage, so we must form classrooms based on our staff allocation (not the number of physical classrooms we have).

If your child is put in a composite class with younger pupils, this does not mean they are being 'held back'. I want to strongly impress that children in ALL classes will follow programmes constructed to help them progress at their own level, regardless of whether they are in a composite or single stage class.

Nor will children moving into a composite class repeat learning from the previous year or be asked to complete work that is too challenging for them.

In addition, we will make every effort to involve children of any one-year group in activities which bring them all together. However, it is also important that the natural identity of each class is maintained as pupils in each room grow together over the session.

South Lanarkshire Council has produced an excellent guide to composite classes, which can be accessed on our website, in the key documents section, or by following the link below.

[A Parent's Guide to Composite Classes](#)

Staffing Update

We are aware that there has been a lot of change in staff for some of our classes, due to absence and cover availability. As we approach the end of term, we are hoping this will become more settled.

- *Mrs Gemma Bell* returns from maternity leave on Friday 15th May. She will return part-time, on a Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, and will provide cover across our school as needed.
- *Mrs Agnes Ruiz* returns to us on Monday 18th May. Moving forward, she will be known as *Mrs Murray*, and she will return to her Primary 3 class (Room 5).
- *Miss Jackie Brown* will be covering Mrs Braid in Room 6 from Tuesday 19th May, until the end of term. The Monday will be covered by Mrs Allison Molloy.

Depute Head Teacher Vacancies



As you know, Mrs Buchanan started her new job as Head Teacher of Newmains Primary School after Spring Break. As announced in our April bulletin, Mrs Moffat will retire at the end of this session. This means that we have 2 Depute Head positions to fill, and these are currently advertised. Interviews will take place early June, with the hope of having the successful candidates in place for August 2026.

Natural Play Opening Event

Thank you to all those who came along to our official opening of our newly renovated Natural Play Area! We are so proud of this resource and feel very lucky to have it! Every class has enjoyed an outdoor learning session in term 3, and we will continue to ensure the space is well cared for and respected.

A huge 'thank you' must go to Mrs Cullen and her side-kick Mrs Murray, for all the time, effort and energy that has gone into this project. This has included lots of personal time, including weekends, and we could not be more grateful!

Outdoor Learning is a key priority for the Scottish Government, who recognise the role it has to play in developing skills and knowledge in a very practical way. It was also recognised as a strength for our school by HMIE. This area will ensure our work will continue, both now and for years to come.



Youth Music Initiative – Primary Play Day

A huge 'well done' to young musicians across P7 and P5, who attended the Primary Play Day on Wednesday 13th May. They spent the day learning their performance pieces, then participated in a concert at Hamilton Town House. A special 'well done' to our P7s, Lewis O'Connor, Abigail Gardner and Harvey Walker, who have been committed to learning their instruments all year!

Construct a Crane Event – Stemovators

This term, Primary 7 pupils have been putting their scientific knowledge to the test by constructing cranes! Mrs Stewart entered them into this project, offered by Stemovators. On Wednesday 13th May, a group of 18 Primary 7 Pupils went along to Heriot Watt University to showcase their engineering skills! They had an amazing day, made even better when it was announced that Team 1 was awarded the regional STEM runner-up prize, winning £100 towards STEM resources. The judges were impressed by their scientific knowledge, clear ownership of their project and confidence in presenting.

Well done to all our pupils, especially Team 1 – Millie Kilmurray, Parker Campbell, Logan Muir, Logan Gracie, Olivia Roddie and Keira Neil.



Clydesdale Track and Field Event

A huge 'well done' to our sports champions, who once again triumphed at the Clydesdale Track and Field event!

- Lucas Kelly – P6 600m – 2nd place
- Lucas Kelly – P6 Javelin – 2nd place
- James Bennet – P7 100m – 1st place
- Isla Dickson – P7 600m – 3rd place
- Isla Dickson – P7 Long Jump – 2nd place
- Mikey Laird – P7 Long Jump – 3rd place
- Mikey Laird – P7 100m – 2nd place
- Leia Clements – P6 100m – 3rd place
- P6 Girls Relay – 3rd place
- P7 Girls Relay – 3rd place
- P7 Boys Relay – 1st place

Travel Tracker Badge Design

Congratulations to Nylah, Zara and Isla who are finalists in the Travel Tracker Badge competition. The standard was very high this year, and the JRSOs were very impressed with their entries!



****UPCOMING DATES FOR TERM 3****

P1-6 SHORTS AND SHADES DISCO – WEDNESDAY 20TH MAY 2026

Tickets have gone home to all P1-6 pupils for this event, which is free and funded by our Parent Council. Pupils should bring their ticket with them when they come along.

- P1-3 – 5.30pm – 6.45pm
- P4-6 – 7.00pm – 8.15pm

Children should bring a water bottle with them, as it can get quite warm in the hall!



Sports Day – Thursday 28th May 2026

This year, our Sports Day takes place on our John Allan Pitches. If the weather is not great, we will reschedule these for another day. We will give you as much notice as possible if this were to happen.

P1-3 Races – 10.00am – 11.30am

P4-7 Races – 1.15pm – 2.45pm

Every child will be encouraged to take part in the following events:

- Flat Race (running)
- Novelty Race (egg and spoon)
- Obstacle Race (Atalanta)



P1-3 children will be awarded a House Point for each event they take part in (rather than a 1st, 2nd or 3rd place). P4-7 pupils will be awarded points for coming 1st, 2nd or 3rd. To help with this, **we are asking children to come wearing something to represent their house colour**. If you do not have anything, don't worry. We can also supply a coloured bib (we just don't have enough for everyone!)



Angus – Blue
Caldwell – Green
Cameron – Red
Ramage – Yellow

Spectators are very welcome to come along. Our Natural Play area will be available for you – feel free to bring a camping chair! We will ensure our gate on Eastfield Road is open for access. Our car park will not be able to accommodate all visitors, so please 'park and stride' where you can!

Please note, children will not be permitted to leave early, or when their events finish. All children can be collected as normal at 3pm.

Football Events

Inter-House football will take place on Wednesday 3rd June, with the Carluke Gala Cup taking place on Thursday 4th June.



Holiday Dates

Just a wee reminder that we are closed on **Friday 22nd** and **Monday 25th May** for the May Bank Holiday weekend. We return on Tuesday 27th May. We are also closed on **Monday 15th June** for the additional bank holiday.

We close on **Thursday 25th June at 1pm** for our Summer Holidays.



Nursery to Primary 1 Transition

We have 57 Primary 1 pupils joining us in August 2026! We have already planned and delivered a lot of transition events, including outdoor learning dates with our current P1s, shared assemblies, and a joint transition topic focused on the Commonwealth Games. A big 'thank you' to Mrs Williamson for organising all of this!

Our Transition Visits will take place on Wednesday 3rd and Thursday 4th June, and invites will be sent to all our new learners. We are as excited as they are to have them join us!

If you are one of our P1 parents for August 2026, please save these dates and watch out for more information coming to you next week!



Crawforddyke Primary School
Primary 1 Induction Days
Wednesday 3rd June
9.15am - 11.45am
Includes an opportunity to have lunch in our school canteen!
Thursday 4th June
1.15pm - 2.45pm
Another opportunity to play and make friends!
Look for your invitation in the post!



Commonwealth Showcase Event

Friday 5th June 2026

Allocated Times (see below)



To finish off our topics in P1-6, parents of pupils in rooms 1-12 are invited to 'drop-in' for our showcase event. Each class will set up their stall in our gym hall, and you are welcome to come along at any point during the day to see examples of work. P7s will be showcasing their STEM work, including their cranes from the STEMOVATOR challenge.

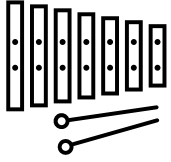
The time slots for our drop-in are detailed below (avoiding play and lunch.) Visitors are welcome to enter via the side gates in the car park and come through the gym hall doors.

There will be an opportunity for any visitors to leave feedback, which we will share with the pupils afterwards!

- Time Slot 1 – 9.15am-10.15am
- Time Slot 2 – 11.00am-12.15pm
- Time Slot 3 – 1.15pm-2.45pm



Youth Music Initiative Showcase – Friday 12th June – 2.00pm



Parents of **ALL** pupils in Rooms 9 and 10 are invited to attend this very special event, organised and hosted by the YMI service.

These children have been working with Mrs Cunningham since January and are excited to show off their musical talent! We would be delighted if you could come along!

Whole School Transition Afternoon – Wednesday 10th June

All children in P1-6 will have the opportunity to visit their new class for August 2026 on the afternoon of Wednesday 10th June. While there, they will receive a letter to pass to parents with information about their new class, and their teacher.

(Please note, we may not be able to confirm all teachers at this point as we do have some vacancies to cover and SLC may not be able to provide this information before summer.)

P7 Leavers' Event – Thursday 18th June – 6pm

We have made a change to the way we will celebrate our P7 leavers this session, mainly due to the numbers involved and the capacity of our gym hall.

Our evening event will incorporate 2 parts:

- The Leavers' Show – where pupils will entertain their guests!
- The Leavers' Assembly – Presentation of Ties and Graduation Scrolls

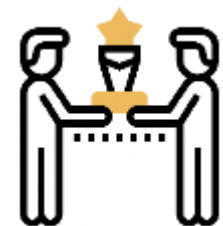


There will be an allocation of 3 tickets per family (this restriction is necessary due to the number of seats we have and the space in the hall.) The evening will begin at 6pm, with arrival from 5.30pm for our official photographer to get some lovely photos!

Prize Giving Assemblies

Our Summer Prize Givings take place on Friday 19th June.

- 9.30am-10.30am – Primary 1-4 Prize Giving
- 1.15pm-2.30pm – Primary 5-7 Prize Giving



Awards are based on our school vision and values, including effort, perseverance, courage and demonstrating a growth mindset.

Parents/carers of award winners will be invited to join us for the prize giving. Unfortunately, we do not have the capacity to make this an open invitation for everyone. Prize winners will be notified very soon by way of an invitation to their grown-ups at home to come along!





Website: crawforddyke-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk

Email: gw14crawdykepsoffice@glow.sch.uk

Assessment and Teacher Professional Judgements

During this term, class teachers are preparing end of year reports for all primary children. Within these reports will be information related to levels achieved within Curriculum for Excellence, guided by National Benchmarks. These are based on teacher professional judgements and assessment information gathered over the full session.

Your child's report will explain the CfE levels to you, so please read this carefully when you receive it. We plan to issue reports on Friday 12th June (see below for more information).

A range of assessments are being carried out, and these are detailed below.

- Scottish National Standardised Assessments (SNSAs) – P4/7 pupils only.
These are assessments set by the Scottish Government, for all pupils in P4/7 in the areas of literacy and numeracy. They are completed online and form a small part of a bigger picture, so do not dictate what a teacher's final judgement may be. You can get more information by visiting the SNSA website: <https://standardisedassessment.gov.scot/parents-and-carers/>
- New Group Reading Test – P2-P7 Pupils only.
We use these standardised assessments to identify how a pupil is progressing in reading and comprehension. If a pupil would normally get support in reading, they will get this same provision when completing the NGRT.
- Single Word Spelling Test – P2-P7 Pupils only.
We use these standardised assessments to identify how a pupil is progressing in spelling. Children access the assessment based on where they are in our spelling program.
- Mathematics Assessment for Learning and Teaching (MALT) – P1-P7 Pupils.
We use these assessments to provide information about how a pupil is progressing in Maths and Numeracy and what gaps in learning we need to revise or cover.

These assessments are known as **summative assessments** which means they are final and are used at the end of stated period. Throughout every school day, your child's teacher is also using **formative assessment** strategies to identify skills, knowledge and understanding. All of this information is used to make a judgement – it is not solely based on one assessment or piece of work.

To read a more detailed explanation of assessment in our school, you can access our newly updated [Learning, Teaching and Assessment](#) Policy here.

Final School Reports

Our annual school reports will be available on Parent's Portal from Friday 12th June. Please note, a paper copy will not be issued this session as we have been asked to issue them using this portal. If you do not yet have access to the portal, please download the app as soon as possible, as this is something that will eventually replace our school app (and is very easy to use!) If you have any issues, the office will be more than happy to help!

ADDITIONAL PRIMARY 7 INFORMATION

Transition Visits to Carluke High School

Wednesday 20th and Thursday 21st May 2026

Good luck to all our P7s who will be attending Carluke High School for their 2-day transition visit next week. A wee reminder to parents that children should be making their own way and back each day, though a member of our team will meet them there on Wednesday morning.

All pupils should wear their full school uniform, which should include a white shirt and school tie. Leaver's hoodies should NOT be worn.

Information was contained in the letter sent out this week. If you need another copy of this, please let us know as soon as possible.

P7 Gazette Photograph

To celebrate the end of this era, Carluke Gazette plans to wave P7 pupils off with their special School Leavers 2026 feature on **Wednesday, June 3**. We have sent in our photographs and will now wait for the newspaper sales team to be in touch with us nearer the publication date with information for our parents/guardians on how they can purchase copies of the newspaper.

P7 Summer Send Off – Carluke High School – Wednesday 10th June

Invitations for this event were sent some time ago, with replies requested by 21st May. This will allow us to confirm numbers with Carluke High School. If you have not already done so, please send this in as soon as you can.



Primary 7 Trip

Our P7s will be heading to Showcase Cinema and Bowling on Tuesday 2nd June. Thanks to funding from the Parent Council, there is no charge for this trip. P7s can dress down but should wear their P7 Leaver's Hoody (so we can keep an eye on where they are!)

Pupils can bring a drink and a small snack for the cinema. Lunch is being provided.

Please note, MOBILE PHONES should be left at home.

The Final Day!

On Thursday 25th June, we will have a 'leaver's archway' for our P7s, as they exit our school for the final time. This will be at the front door, at 1pm. Parents are welcome to attend so that they can take photos and celebrate with their child.

