



Education Resources Executive Director Carole McKenzie Carnwath Primary School Head Teacher: Jennifer P Bradford Carnwath Primary School and Nursery Class Term 1 Newsletter (September 2023)



Welcome to our first Newsletter of the new session. I am pleased to report that all our returning children have settled back in very well and are adjusting to life as the 'big ones' of the nursery. We have also welcomed two new children who have also adapted very well to their unfamiliar environment and have already made lots of new friends.

This newsletter will give you an insight into just some of the things we have been learning these past few weeks.

As always, please also remember that you can phone into the nursery at any time should you have any queries or concerns.

Míss Stewart

Nursery Staff

Head Teacher: Mrs Jennifer Bradford

Principal Teacher: Mrs Sharon Alexander

Team Leader: Miss Lesley Stewart

Early Years Support worker: Mrs Rachel Gorman

Early Years Practitioners: Mrs Kathryn Stuart Miss Nicola White Mrs Kathleen Lawrie Mrs Lesley Cairns Mrs Barbara Slater Mrs Rosemary Buchanan





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Jennifer Bradford@MrsB_CarnwathP Sharon Alexander @MrsA_CarnwathPS Lesley Stewart @MissStewartCPS Lesley Cairns @MrsCairnsCPS Kat Lawrie @mrs_lawrie_CPS Kate Stuart @MrsStuartCPS Nicola White @misswhite1cps Rosemary Buchanan @Mrsbuchanan15



School/Nursery App

Please download the school app and search for Carnwath Primary School to keep up to date with what is happening at the nursery and school.

Sharing Our Learning on 'X'

It was brought to our attention that there was an issue with some of the followers we had on X(Twitter). As a result, we have changed the settings on all the accounts. Nobody will be able to follow any of the school accounts or see what is posted without being accepted by us. Please let us know if you want to follow us but you aren't easily identifiable through your username. This also means that none of our posts can be reposted by the school account. Please ensure you are following the correct members of staff to see all the exciting learning that happens in our nursery. There is a staff list to the left that includes who you need to follow.

White Craw Court, Carnwath, ML11 8GZ, Lanark. Phone: 01555 840263 Email: gw14carnwathpsoffice@glow.sch.uk



Learning Journals

Please remember to log onto your child's online Learning Journal to see what they have been getting up to during their time in nursery. This is where you will find lots of photographs, observations, and information about their learning. Also, do not forget to react to or comment on your child's work- it is always great to receive feedback!

If you have logged on recently, you may also have noticed the new feature for parent contributions. This allows you to add photographs and comments of your own – we love to see what the children get up to when they are not at nursery.

If you have any problems logging on, please speak to Miss Stewart who will be happy to reset your log in password or provide help with logging in.

New Lunch Menu

The children have been enjoying trying different foods on offer during lunch time from our new menu. If you have not received a copy of this, please speak to a member of staff and we will get one to you so you can discuss the daily options with your child.

Reporting an Absence

A gentle reminder that if your child is going to be absent from nursery, can you please call and leave a message on the answer machine or speak to a member of staff.

Consultation Station

We value your opinion and use information you provide to help us with our self-evaluation and continuous improvement. In the cloakroom there is a Consultation Station, and each month will ask you to provide feedback on a different question relating to various aspects of your child's nursery experience.

Question of the month – "Do you think our nursery provides a relaxed, welcoming, and peaceful environment for your child to play and learn?"

The outcomes of all previous consultation questions are published at the station to keep you informed of the outcome and to make you aware of any changes we have implemented to improve the service we provide.

Donation Tree



You may have noticed our donation tree pop up within the cloakroom.

At Carnwath Nursery Class we endeavour to fill your child's day with **FUN** experiments and sensory opportunities to spark their imagination, creativity, and interest in learning. We are therefore always in need of supplies for our learning adventures.

When our supplies are running low, we will add an apple to the tree with suggested items. Please feel free to take an apple or two from the tree if you are able to donate any supplies.

** Thank you so much to those that have already donated. We really appreciate your support! **

Lending Library



We hope you are enjoying using our lending library. Please remember to return books when you have finished reading them so that some of the other children can enjoy them too.

Change of Clothes

Can you please make sure that your child has a full change of clothes in the gym bag on their coat peg. We have a limited amount of nursery spare clothes and like to avoid disrupting parents/carers by having to phone and ask them to bring a change where possible.

Celebrating Success

Celebrating children's achievements shows them we are interested in their life and are aware of the efforts they make. It improves self-esteem and confidence to try new things and helps to foster a mindset that they should be proud of all achievements, big or small. Please tell us about all your child's achievements out-with nursery so that we can join in with the celebration of their success and we will add a special mention to our Being Me wall display in nursery.

Adventure Ted

Going forward, as reward for achieving nursery Citizen of the week the children will have the opportunity to take home Adventure Ted for the weekend. Ted will be given out on a **Friday** and should be returned to nursery on the following **Monday.** Children and parents are encouraged to involve Ted in family life during his stay and on his return, your child will be encouraged to give a brief account of their adventures to their key worker and the other children in nursery.

Our Learning in Nursery

Grow it, cook it, eat it!

Before the summer break, the children planted vegetables in our nursery garden. They looked after them by watering them regularly and removing any weeds that grew round about them. Mrs Cochrane very kindly took over this task during the holidays and we came back to find lovely home-grown vegetables, allowing the children to explore and discover where certain foods come from. The children dug up the potatoes and prepared them by washing, peeling, chopping, boiling, and mashing them prior to mixing them with flour and cooking them to make potato scones which they all enjoyed tasing as part of their afternoon snack. Throughout this experience the children developed their listening skills to follow instructions whilst also learning to conduct each part of the process using the utensils and equipment safely.











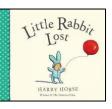
Our favourite stories

The children have been learning to express themselves through discussions of their favourite story books. They read a story called 'Little Rabbit Lost' and talked about the different feelings and emotions they thought the rabbit may have felt at various points throughout. They used their observational skills to analyse the pictures and developed their prediction skills through discussion about what they thought might happen next in the story. This allowed them the opportunity to relate to times in their own lives where they may have felt similar emotions which encouraged them to express and develop their ability to talk about them.











Our Learning continued . . .

Bugs, Bugs, Bugs!

While exploring the garden, the children showed a keen interest in learning about insects and living things in their natural environment. When digging up the potatoes they found a caterpillar, millipede, earwig, and woodlouse. Following on from this they used magnifying glasses to search all around to see what other tiny creatures they could find. The children encouraged each other to be gentle when lifting the insects and put them back into their natural habitat once they had finished examining and discussing their movements and appearances.



Later that same week the children discovered a large snail crawling on one of the plants within the nursery and decided to explore it in more detail. They used the iPad to find out interesting facts as well as all the names for its body parts. They then researched what snails like and made it a home using a plastic container and stones they found outside. They also picked leaves from their home-grown lettuce that they thought it might like to eat. They all thought of potential names for the snail and demonstrated good alliteration skills by suggesting names beginning with 'S' and finally decided on 'Sid the Snail.'



Exploring the inside of a computer

The children have been enjoying investigating the inside of computer towers. Using screwdrivers of various shape and size they have been developing their hand-eye co-ordination and fine motor skills to carefully remove the screws to take the towers to bits to explore each of the parts. This learning experience has enhanced the children's imagination and curiosity and prompted lots of discussion about what each part would do and how it would make the computer work. The children also engaged in conversation with each other about their home experiences of being involved in fixing their own toys and bikes alongside their family members.





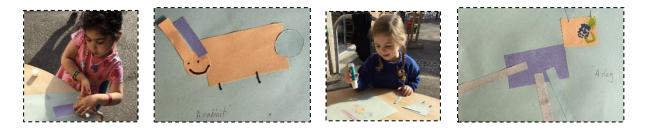


2D shape

Using a variety of objects from around the nursery environment, the children have been exploring 2D shape. They helped each other to sort and categorise them according to their appearance and whilst doing so have also been learning to identify and name them correctly.



Following on from the sorting experience the children used 2D shapes to create their own collage pictures. The children demonstrated good creative and imaginative skills by expressing their own ideas using various shapes to represent various parts of their picture.



Symmetry

In keeping with the 2D shape theme, the children have also been exploring symmetry using mirrors and coloured straws. The children learned about reflection and had fun creating a range of symmetrical pictures by positioning the straws and mirrors to make shapes.





Carnwath Nursery Class



At Carnwath Nursery Class we promote Child Led Learning. Please use this tear off slip to provide any information about your child's current interests from home to help inform our planning process and allow us to meet your child's needs the best we can.

My child ______ (Child's name) is currently interested in . . .

Important Dates

Complaints Procedure

We are committed to providing a quality service but if you are unhappy with the service you receive in relation to your child's time in our nursery then it is important that you do something about it. You can:

- Inform any member of staff or ask to speak to our nursery Team Leader, Head Teacher, or Principal Teacher.
- Post details of your complaint in the parent suggestion box in the foyer at the nursery exit.
- Contact a member of the Parent Council. Mr David Knox-Welsh is the Chairperson.
- Contact Education Resources: 01698 454545
- Contact Care Inspectorate: 0345 600 9527

School Holiday Dates 2034/24

September 2023	
September Weekend	Friday 22 and Monday 25 September 2023
October 2023	
October Break	Monday 16 to Friday 20 October 2023
November 2023	
In-service day	Monday 13 November 2023
December 2023 and January 2024	
Christmas/Mew Year	Schools close at 2.30pm on Friday 22 December 2023 Schools re-open on Monday 8 January 2024
February 2024	
February Break	Monday 12 and Tuesday 13 February 2024
In-service day	Wednesday 14 February 2024
March/April 2024	
Spring break/Easter	Schools close at 2.30pm on Thursday 28 March 2024 Schools re-open on Monday 15 April 2024
May 2024	
In-service day	Thursday 2 May 2024
May day	Monday 6 May 2024