

Carmondean Primary School Newsletter 5

June 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

Classes 2018-19

The classes for next session are as follows:

P1A	Mrs Steel
P1B	Miss C Pringle (Mon, Tue and every alternate Friday) and Mrs L Oliver (Wed, Thu and every alternate Friday)
P1C	Miss R Christy
P2A	Mrs L Muir
P2B	Miss E Rafferty
P3A	Ms C Matheson (Mon, Tue and every alternate Friday) and Mrs M Smith (Wed, Thu and every alternate Friday)
P3B	Miss L Smith
P4A	Miss N Clark
P4B	Miss Z Donaldson
P5A	Mrs L Davies (Mon – Mrs Gilmour)
P5B	Mrs A Jamieson
P6A	Mr P Woodward
P6B	Miss C Farren
P7A	Mrs M Wylie (Mon – Mrs C Muir)
P7B	Miss C Mulhern
Nurture Class	Mrs A Tully
Support for Learning	Mrs F Harris, Mrs S Oliver and Mrs C Muir
P.E	Mrs J Ferguson
Art	Miss S Fox
Support Circle and Life Skills Groups	Mrs Marshall

Staffing News

After 36 years of service to Carmondean Mrs Steel, Breakfast Club Assistant and Cleaner, retires from her job. Her commitment to the life and work of the school has been very much appreciated and the whole school community wish her and her family all the very best for the future.

Mrs Macaulay also leaves us at the end of session to start her maternity leave. Her baby is due during the summer so watch this space for an update when we return in August. We all wish her well for the coming months.

Also leaving us at the end of this session is Mr Gordon. We wish him well in his new school and thank him for his hard work and commitment to Carmondean.

I am sure you will express to all staff that are leaving your best wishes for their futures and thank them for their commitment and contributions to the life of the school.

We have two new members of staff joining the team next session. Mrs Davies will teach Primary 5 and Miss Mulhern will teach Primary 7.

Returning to us following her secondment to Seafield Primary School is Miss Smith. We welcome her back to Carmondean in August.

Miss Farren is getting married over the summer and we all wish her well for the day and for the future. When she returns in August she will be known as...

CELEBRATING SUCCESS

Summer Fun Run

On Saturday 9 June the PSA ran our annual Summer fundraising event, a sponsored Fun Run. Everyone had a ball and the sun shone down. A huge thank you to the PSA committee for their hard work and commitment to the school. The total amount raised in 2 hours was £1000.35. The money is for school funds whereby each member of staff can request an amount to supplement their class resources. The committee are already planning the event for next year and vow to make it bigger and better!

Deans Gala Day

On Saturday 15 June, Mr Shanks and I attended Deans Gala Day where we were presented to the Queen. Many of our children took part in the ceremony and well done to everyone for a magnificent display of colour and pageant.

This is the first year the school decided to take part in the Deans Gala Day procession. Thank you to those parents and children who came along and represented the school and nursery. Fingers crossed for better weather next year and an increased turnout for Carmondean.

Daisy Stewart, from P7 took on the job of organising the school relay teams. A job well done and success for the school winning first place for both the boys and the girls teams.

This year we took part in the football tournament which took place on 13 June where we were up against teams from Meldrum Primary, Deans Primary and St John Ogilvie Primary. The boys played extremely well having lost a match, drawn a match and won a match.

P4 and P5 School Show

Once again, our children rose to the challenge and put on a first class performance of 'Pirates of the Curry Bean'. They learned their lines, danced, sang and performed superbly in front of their audiences with each performance improving every time. Well done to the children and to the staff for preparing the children so well. Also, many thanks to parents/carers who supported the children to ensure they performed at such a high level.

Residentials

Primary 3, 4, 5 and 6 have enjoyed their residential trips to Low Port, Auchengillan, Lendrick Muir and Dalguise. Members of the supervising staff came back singing the praises of the children in terms of behaviour, their manners and ability to learn. The children are a credit to us all.

Since my last newsletter, Primary 7s residential to France has taken place. Once again, this was an amazing experience for the children. They had a ball from start to finish and, as happens every year, members of the public made it their business to praise the children's good behaviour and manners. Well done Primary 7.

For next session, the following residential programme is on offer: Primary 3 overnight stay at Low Port, limited to 30 children; Primary 4 overnight stay at Auchengillan, limited to 40 children; Primary 5 two

night stay at Lendrick Muir, limited to 40 children; Primary 6 four night stay at Dalguise, limited to 40 children and Primary 7 five nights in France, including 2 overnights on the Ferry from Hull, limited to 40 children.

The Beach Trip

The Primary 1-3 and Primary 7 beach trip went ahead on Tuesday 19 June. The sun shone a little, the sky was bluish and the children had a ball as usual. The outing was extremely successful and enjoyed by everyone. Thanks to the staff for organising it and thanks also goes to the parents for giving up their time to support the trip. We are all looking forward to next year already.

Developing the Young Workforce Careers Open Morning

On Friday 15 June we opened the doors to parents and carers to showcase the work we have done with Developing the Young Workforce. This very successful event gave us the opportunity to share with you the excellent work that has been done and continues to be done around this area of the curriculum. The House Captains did a fine job gauging opinion from visitors using the school's ipads. Comments received included:

'The school is very welcoming and I enjoyed seeing other stages...it is important that children realise they can aspire to any career they wish;

I thought the P1's posters were fantastic. It was evident a lot of hard work had gone into them and it is great to see they are looking at different career choices at such an early age;

Fab morning, very impressed;

What a fantastic morning, so much enthusiasm across the school;

A very informative morning. Once again the children showcased their work very well.'

Transition

It is that time of year again when all the children are looking forward to the next stage in their education. This is a particularly important time for our P7 pupils as they leave us for the High School. We have worked hard to ensure a smooth, seamless transition at both ends of the school and have worked closely with colleagues from a number of establishments to provide many valuable transition activities. We look forward to welcoming our new Primary 1 pupils and wish them a happy and successful time at Carmondean. We also say goodbye to our Primary 7 pupils, hoping that they will have happy memories of their time here. Goodbye, also, to the children and families who are leaving us this session. We have enjoyed working with you and wish you well for the future.

School Dress Code

Please be reminded that the dress code for Carmondean Primary School is grey, black or navy trousers/skirt, white polo shirt and navy sweatshirt. School sweatshirts and polo shirts are available from school.

This session we have seen an increase in the number of boys wearing skinny jeans to school. Jeans are not, and never have been, part of school uniform. Next session, we would really appreciate your support in keeping your child/children in line with our school dress code and ensure that they come to school wearing the correct trousers. This is especially important for our children in Primary 7 as a way of preparing them for High School as the practise of wearing jeans is strictly prohibited.

Breakfast Club

The Breakfast Club provides pupils with a healthy breakfast and offers the opportunity for them to sample and develop preferences for healthy options. The club aims to establish positive relationships at the start of the school day, helping to reduce lateness or poor attendance and improve attitude, behaviour and motivation to learn. The club begins at 8.15 and breakfast is served in the dining hall. At approximately 8.30 children go into the playground with their peers. Please ensure your child enters the school from the Primary 6-7 door. This free breakfast provision is open to all primary school children. If you are interested in a place from August please contact the school office for more information.

Online payments

NO MORE SEARCHING FOR THE EXACT AMOUNT FOR LUNCH MONEY!

iPayimpact is live at school now! West Lothian Council has introduced a more convenient way to order and pay for school meals, trips, activities and other significant school purchases, using a secure internet service called iPayimpact.

You can order your child's meal for the day/week or for up to 6 weeks online and pay your meal and milk accounts and other activities directly instead of sending cash to school in your children's pockets. You can put lump sums on your child's meal account and as meals are taken it will be reduced by the cost of a meal each time so you don't have to log on each day to make payment. Make secure payments online using your credit or debit card. iPayimpact offers you the freedom to make payments whenever and wherever you like, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week - safe in the knowledge that the technology uses the highest level internet security available. If you have children at different schools within West Lothian, you will be able to connect all the children to your unique account and be able to make payments for all purchases in one single transaction.

I hope you will support us in working toward our goal to become a cashless school.

Introducing this system will provide you with the convenience of being able to order meals and pay at home whilst removing potential risks to children from carrying cash. You can also select meals from the lunch menu at home giving you greater control over what your child has for lunch.

The main contact parent/caregiver has been sent unique iPayimpact Account activation details via a letter given to their child. If you require a copy please contact the school office.

Attendance at School

Attendance at school by children and young people is essential so that they receive the education to which they are entitled. Absence from school, whatever the cause, disrupts learning and will impact negatively on the life chances of our children and young people and therefore our community.

West Lothian Council recognises the need for all children to engage fully in the education process and has developed a strategy for promoting attendance through a positive and supportive approach. This strategy provides a framework that allows early intervention, comprehensive information and a positive partnership with parents through a staged intervention approach.

The first stage of a three stage process is where a child's attendance has fallen below 90% in the previous month and no good reason for such an absence is supplied by the parent/carer. A letter will be sent to inform the parent/carer that this absence is unacceptable and needs to improve.

Next session, attendance will continue to be regularly monitored and we would appreciate your support in ensuring your child attends school unless there is illness or some other reason that can be explained.

Thank You

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support; it is only with many of you investing a significant amount of time to help that the school runs as effectively as it does. You make a huge difference, and on behalf of the staff and pupils, thank you.

I hope you all have a wonderful summer. Relax and enjoy the sunshine and we will see you all next session on Tuesday 21 August, 2017.

Yours faithfully,

Gillian Millar
Head Teacher

Dates for your Diary

August

20 Staff resume
21 School and Nursery pupils resume
29 Meet the Teacher 4.30-5.30

September

12 Parent Council AGM 18.30
17 September holiday
18 Staff In-Service day
19 Pupils resume
24 After School Clubs begin

October

10 Parents' Evening 5.00-7.30
11 Parents' Evening 4.00-6.30
15-19 October Holiday
22 Staff In-Service day
23 Pupils resume