

What's New @ The View!

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Castleview Family News

Where does the time go!



It is hard to believe we are nearing the end of term again. Your children continue to amaze me. They are incredibly resilient and are coping so well with the Covid rules we still have to stick to in school. I am so proud of them all.

I am equally proud of the amazing Castleview staff team who continue to arrive at work everyday with a smile on their face. School staff are also impacted by the Covid rules. For example we have a limited number of staff members allowed in a room. This makes staff lunch breaks very difficult and as anyone know who works with or lives with children, getting a quick peaceful break and refuelling is so important! We are all working extra hard to reduce the spread and ensure our school community will not be impacted.

At drop off and pick up times please support us by:

1. Only one Parent/Carer to enter the playground at pick up and drop off. This includes older high school siblings.
2. Please do not gather at the gate or cars.
3. Please ensure you are wearing a face mask.

In addition please remember our normal playground rules:

1. Dogs are **NOT** allowed in the playground—regardless if they are being carried or not
2. Please do not use the Rear Carpark entrance. It is dangerous. This is not for drop offs or a short cut for pedestrians.

Joy Kindness Respect Honesty



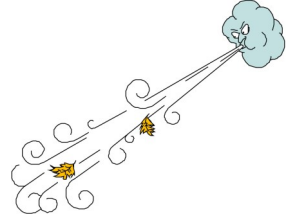
End of Term School Dates

Mon 29th November	Whole School Nurture Award Inspection
Wed 1st Dec	Learner's Updates Issued to Parents/Carers
Thurs 2nd Dec	Flu Jab P1-P7
Fri 10th December	Christmas Jumper Day We will be going on a Christmas walk Feel free to wear a Christmas item to school (jumper, hairband, tinsel etc)
Wed 15th December	P1—P7 Christmas Party Day Feel free to wear party clothes
Thurs 16th December	Whole School Festive Lunch Day Feel free to wear Christmas/party clothes
Thurs 16th December	Release of P2/P3 performance 'Light Up the World' and Nursery/P1 Winter Performance
Fri 17th December	Nursery Christmas Party
Fri 17th December	Foodbank Open 9-10
Fri 17th December	Term Ends 12 Noon
Thurs 30th December	Foodbank Open 11-1
Thurs 6th January	All Return to school



Please dress for the weather

Winter is now here and the temperature has started to drop. The children love to be outdoors and we wouldn't have it any other way. We encourage all the children to wear their coats. Please can you try to send your child to school in warm clothes, coats, jumpers, gloves, hats and scarves as required. If you need any support with this please don't hesitate to ask we are always here to help.



Please try to order your child's lunches on Parent Pay. This mean less food wastage. Issy and Nikki in the office are happy to support you.



Online payments

As we continue to be a cash and paper free office achieving our learning for sustainability goals.

We are pleased that there has been an increase in the number of children signed up to Parent Pay.

We now need to work on ordering lunches online in advance. We are asking all families P1– P7 to make sure they have ordered their child's school lunch by a Tuesday evening at 8pm for the following week.

This is common practice across Edinburgh schools.



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School Attendance is so important!

School attendance is so important. Poor attendance has a huge negative impact on attainment for children and young people.

Poor attendance has been linked to lower levels of attainment; poor peer relationships; emotional and behavioural difficulties and poorer employment opportunities. Some initial studies have indicated that missing 10% of schooling (equivalent of 4 weeks) over the course of a year can impact on attainment.

Low levels of attendance can also be linked to how connected children and young people feel to their school community. If children don't attend school regularly they may naturally find friendships hard as they have missed things and children move on. This impacts on their emotional well-being.

When talking about attendance we often get lost in the percentage figure showing how much your child has been in school. It is important to understand how that can be turned into how much real time your child has missed. Looking at it this way can be very shocking.

Pupil Attendance as Percentage	Number of days lost	Days lost in weeks
90%	19 days	3 weeks and 4 days
85%	28 and a half days	5 weeks and 3 and a half days
75%	47 and a half days	9 weeks and a half weeks

Unfortunately Castlevie's attendance statistics are not great compared to other schools in the city. Castlevie being Castlevie we are not happy with that and always strive to be better and climb the attendance league table! I know you will want to help. We all like to be the best!

We know it can be very hard sometimes for you or your child to come to school for a variety of reasons. As usual we are not here to judge on that but only want to help. Please speak to any school staff member you feel comfortable with if you want some help with getting your child to school.

Most importantly remember Castlevie is a happy place. All the staff will look after and care for your child if they are anxious about coming into school. We will also take time to call you if needed to let you know your child has settled. We don't want you worrying all day. Our soft start means there is a very gentle start to the day. Our bagel bar means there is also breakfast on offer for everyone everyday. Let's do what we do best and work together and help each other.

Positive Partnership Working



IntoUniversity 

We are delighted to be working in partnership with IntoUniversity an organisation who works in communities to inspire young people to achieve. All of our P4 –P7 classes are getting the opportunity to take part in activities at the Whitehouse, the IntoUniversity Craigmillar base this session. We were very proud of our very own Alicia from P6 who spoke so confidently at the Community launch.

IntoUniversity Craigmillar is IntoUniversity's first centre in Edinburgh, opened in partnership with the Universities of Glasgow and Edinburgh. Every Tuesday and Wednesday 3:30pm - 5:00pm children can access support from graduate staff and university-educated volunteers on schoolwork and a target approach to improving literacy and numeracy. Please let us know if you need any more information about these sessions.

Our IntoUniversity workshops have continued this term, with both P7 classes enjoying their focus day looking at Transition to High School. P6 enjoyed a full week's experience at the Whitehouse, studying the topic of 'sustainability'. Both classes worked in teams all week long, supporting each other and extending their understanding of: clean energy sources, sustainable materials, pollution and global goals. The pupils had an excellent time learning about university too. They asked a current Edinburgh University student lots of questions and made personal goals for their future. The week ended with a graduation ceremony and wonderful performances put on by our pupils. Well done P6!



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We continue to work with our local partner the Craigmillar Literacy Trust. The Craigmillar Literacy Trust is a small community based charity working with the Greater Craigmillar community in Edinburgh.



The Trust was set up in 1998 and delivers the Craigmillar Books for Babies early literacy project working with families with children under the age of 4 and the Creating and Learning Together project which delivers to children, young people and families.

**THE JOHNNI STANTON
CREATIVE WRITING AWARDS
2021**

For children and young people aged 8-16 in Craigmillar & Niddrie

THEME FOR 2021: WRITE A STORY ABOUT KINDNESS IN 100 WORDS

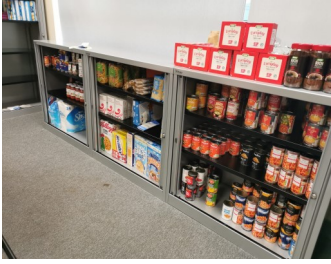
Find out more on our Facebook page or contact katieswann@craigmillarliteracytrust.org.uk

CLOSING DATE: 15 October 2021

Congratulations to this P7 superstar who came runner up in the Johnni Stanton Creative Writing Awards this year! Ava wrote a beautiful story about a kind nurse and recognised the wonderful work of the NHS. Well done Ava!



Foodbank Friday



Foodbank Friday goes from strength to strength. We operate every Friday from 11.30. We continue to build partnerships to help support our community in sustainable ways. We strongly believe a foodbank should not just have cheap processed food instead we try to offer fresh food. We also have our clothing rail available every week with free quality items. Helen and Lia have run successful themes weeks such as school uniform week or Christmas week. Foodbank Friday is much more than just food and clothing. Come along and make links with Helen and Lia who are happy to signpost families to other supports or just be a caring ear. Thank you to all our partners who help to make this happen.



Sign of the Week

As you know we are determined to make Castleview as inclusive as possible. At Castleview we are all learning to use signalong to support all our learners. Ms Armstrong has introduced 'Sign of the Week'. Each week our learning community are taught a new sign.

Signalong is a key word sign-supported communication system based on British sign language and is used in spoken word order. It uses speech, sign, body language, facial expression and voice tone to reference the link between sign and word. Signalong is a great way to support learners with communication difficulties and English as an additional language. Check out our Twitter page and learn alongside us.



More achievements for our school family!



On the Thursday the 6th of November we welcomed an HMIE inspector to school. She was there to look at our 'approaches to recovery' since our return in August 2021 following the pandemic. The inspector had a tour of the school from two Primary Seven pupils. She then met with Ms Langley and Ms Maxwell who discussed the school improvement plan, what priorities were chosen and how it was going. The inspector followed this up with meeting with a group of teachers, support staff before finishing meeting with a group of children. It was a very successful morning. We will not receive a report or grades at this time and instead her finding will be included in a national report. She shared with Ms Langley she enjoyed her visit. These were her comments in an email to Ms Langley.

'Fabulous visit from my perspective. The school is a vibrant place for all the children in your team's care.'

'Please pass on my sincere thanks to everyone. The school and its team are very special and your children are having such positive experiences in a very nurturing environment '

Good job everyone!



THE NATIONAL NURTURING SCHOOLS AWARD

Over the last two years Mrs Newall, Ms Florence, Mrs Anderson and Ms Armstrong have been leading work on evidencing our nurture approaches at Castleview to try to achieve a National Nurturing Schools Award. On Monday 29th November we were involved in a virtual Nurture Award Assessment. The Nurture UK team met online with various groups including the Senior Leadership Team, Pupils, Teachers, Support Staff, Parents and Carers and School Partners. We are absolutely delighted to share that we have achieved a Nurture UK Award.



A word from our weans



In August we welcomed our new Primary One pupils into school. Let's hear what some of them are saying about their school experience so far at Castleview.

<p><i>'I love learning'</i> Jessica</p>		<p><i>'I like going outside'</i> Abbey</p>	
<p><i>'I have lots of friends'</i> Aayan</p>		<p><i>'I like lego and playing outside'</i> Rylie</p>	
<p><i>'I like the woods'</i> Clara</p>		<p><i>'I like playing with my fiends'</i> Kiva</p>	
<p><i>'I like going to the woods'</i> Yusha</p>		<p><i>'Everybody helps me'</i> Roma</p>	



It has been a busy few months at Castleview with lots of events to raise awareness around equality and celebrate our differences! As our equalities work sits alongside our Rights Respecting school's award, we have joined these together to create our Rights Respecting and Equalities Pupil Group. We have 11 fantastic class representatives who are full of ideas about how to improve our school!

Black history month

This year we linked our Black History Month learning to our topics. Pupils learnt about inclusive toys, Rosa parks and the bus boycotts in England, racism in football, the role of black soldiers in WW2 and Scotland's involvement in the slave trade. You can find out more about what our pupils learned by clicking the link below:

<https://sway.office.com/2d8vGUhmdvj2BfAE?ref=Link>



During BHM, we also raised awareness and money for the charity **Show Racism the Red**



Card. We took part in Wear Red Day and had meaningful conversations with pupils about what racism is, what to do if you witness it at Castleview and what we can do as a school to prevent it happening.



LGBT Schools charter

After meeting with our charter manager, we have been encouraged to work towards our silver award as we are working above the bronze award standards! One of our goals was to get involved with a campaign that highlighted young peoples right to experience an education free

from prejudice and discrimination. Our P6 year group delivered on this when they wrote to the senior leadership team asking the school to join in 'wear a skirt to school day'. This event was about challenging gender stereotypes. You may have noticed it went viral! We were mentioned on This Morning, BBC radio Scotland and The Nine (to name a few...). Our staff and pupils took this as an opportunity to learn about the role the media play and how you can disagree whilst respecting other people's points of view.



MALE TEACHERS WEAR SKIRTS IN SUPPORT OF EXPELLED STUDENT

In response to a bullying incident, male teachers joined the #LaRopaNoTieneGenero (Clothes Have No Gender) movement and wore skirts to school.

At Virgen de Sacedon primary school in Valladolid, Spain, a boy was mocked for wearing an anime sweatshirt to school, which he quickly changed to avoid further harassment. Two of his male teachers, to show their support and stand up for the boy's individuality, decided to swap their trousers for skirts the next day, saying they wanted to promote tolerance, respect and diversity.

The Clothes Have No Gender campaign started in October 2020 when Mikel Gomez, a student in Bilbao, was expelled for wearing a skirt to school and his male teachers began wearing skirts to work to challenge the stereotypical gender norms. Mikel shared his story on TikTok and the video went viral, prompting male teachers across the world to wear skirts to school in solidarity.

Jose Pinas, a gay teacher, tweeted in support of Mikel: "20 years ago I suffered persecution and insults for my sexual orientation in the institute where I am now a teacher... many teachers, they looked the other way, I want to join the cause of the student, Mikel, who has been expelled and sent to the psychologist for going to class with a skirt".

There is now an annual 'wear a skirt to school day' every 4 November.

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Anti-bullying week

We joined in with Odd socks day for the start of Anti bullying week 2021. Wearing odd socks celebrates what makes us all unique! The theme of this years Anti-bullying week was 'one kind word' so our school family focussed on spreading even more kindness and joy than we normally do!



spread
kindness
like
confetti

Children in Need

As always our families were so generous and your donations will make a difference to children across the UK- THANKYOU! We all enjoyed our walks and taking part in our Pudsey quiz!



We hope everyone who celebrated had a wonderful Diwali, and to those celebrating Hanukkah, we wish you love and light.



Check out the Equalities tab on our school website for more information and to see pupil's Black History Month learning!

<https://castleviewprimaryschool.com/>

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What's all this rights stuff about?

You have rights, use them!



UNCRC stands for the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. It's a list of rights that all children, everywhere in the world, have. The rights on the list are all the things that children and young people need to make sure that they are healthy, happy and safe. There are 54 articles in the list, and 42 of these are rights for children (the others are about how adults and governments should work together to make sure all children get all their rights).

Want to know your rights?



- Article 1: Everyone under 18 has these Rights
- Article 2: All children have these rights no matter what!
- Article 3: Everyone who works with children should always do what is best for each child
- Article 4: The government should make sure that all these rights are available to all children
- Article 5: Learn how to use your rights as you grow up
- Article 6: You have the right to life and to be healthy
- Article 7: Your right to a name and nationality
- Article 8: The government should respect your right to a name, nationality and family
- Article 9: Your right to be with your parents if this is what's best for you

- Article 10: Your right to see your family if they live in another country
- Article 11: Your right not to be taken out of the country illegally
- Article 12: Your right to say what you think should happen and be listened to
- Article 13: Your right to have information
- Article 14: Your right to follow your own religion
- Article 15: Your right to meet with friends and join groups and clubs
- Article 16: Your right to have privacy
- Article 17: Your right to honest information from newspapers and television that you can understand
- Article 18: Both parents share responsibility for bringing up their children, and they should always think about what is best for each child

Article 19: You should not be harmed and should be looked after and kept safe

Article 20: You should be looked after properly if you can't live with your own family

Article 21: Your right to live in the best place for you if you can't live with your parents

Article 22: Refugee children have the same rights as children born in Wales

Article 23: Your right to special care and support if you are disabled

Article 24: Your right to good food and water and to see a doctor if you are ill

Article 25: Children who are not living with their families should be checked on regularly to make sure they are ok

Article 26: The right to extra money if your family hasn't got enough to live on

Article 27: Your right to a good standard of living

Article 28: Your right to learn and to go to school

Article 29: Your right to become the best that you can be

Article 30: Your right to use your own language

Article 31: Your right to relax and play



we have the right to be included

→ Article 32: You should be protected from work that is dangerous

→ Article 33: You should be protected from dangerous drugs

→ Article 34: The government should protect children from sexual abuse

→ Article 35: You have a right not to be sold

→ Article 36: You should be protected from doing things that could harm you

→ Article 37: Your right to be treated fairly if you break the law

→ Article 38: Children should be protected during a war and not allowed to fight in the army if they are under 15

→ Article 39: Children should get special help if they have been abused

→ Article 40: Your right to legal help if you have been accused of breaking the law

→ Article 41: If the laws in your country protect you better than the rights in this list, those laws should stay

→ Article 42: The government must let children and families know about children's rights

Remember **FACTS** for a safer Scotland

F
A
C
T
S

Face coverings



Avoid crowded places



Clean your hands regularly



Two metre distance



Self isolate and book a test if you have symptoms



nhsinform.scot/coronavirus
#WeAreScotland



A Final Note

I continue to reflect how lucky I am to be the Headteacher of Castleview Primary School. I love my job! It is an absolute privilege to work in the Craigmillar community.

We have had a very busy two terms. There is no such thing as a quiet week at Castleview. There is always something going on. I think that is what makes it such a special place.

Life is busy and the demands placed on us by Christmas and the festive season seem to grow every year. I am working hard to keep going back to what is actually important. For me that is time with my family and friends. It's not all about gifts and the latest gadgets. It is about the time we get to be with loved ones. We never really know when we won't have that time again. I believe it is important to treasure it when we have it.

This year I am also trying to engage my sustainability brain. Do we really need that? Is it a sustainable product? This is not an easy task for me. I live with four children who are all exposed to the commercial world. On the other hand I also know how much they love spending time with me; baking or watching a movie. My time is free and there is no plastic involved!

I hope you have a safe and happy Winter break. Please look after yourself and each other. I look forward to continuing to work with you in 2022.

Clare Langley (Headteacher)

Please scan this QR code to give feedback on the newsletter.



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