



Calderwood Chronicle

Weekly News Update for Parents and Families Wednesday 6th May 2020

Welcome to the latest issue of our Calderwood Chronicle newsletter as we navigate our way through another week of lockdown. We have had a busy week of remote working and there is plenty of news for you below.

I would like to say a special 'hello' to all the parents and carers of our new Primary 1 pupils who are currently preparing their children to start school in these very unusual circumstances. Welcome to Team Calderwood! For many of you who have just recently downloaded our App or joined us on Twitter, this will be the first Calderwood newsletter that you read. I hope it gives you a sense of who we are as a school community and the value we place on our pupils and families.

As this period of lockdown continues, we know that family circumstances continue to change. Please remember that if you need support with any issues, or with the provision of food, IT devices, school supplies or other essential items, we can help. Please get in touch with me at the email address below. I have also included additional support information at the bottom of this newsletter.

Please remember to keep in touch and send your child's achievements, stories and Pupil Challenges to me at gw14calderwoodht@glow.sch.uk. I hope you enjoy the newsletter and I look forward to hearing from you.

Take care and stay safe,

Mrs Innes 

News

Distance Learning

As we continue with our distance learning provision through Google Classroom, we have been working with teaching staff and listening to feedback from parents and carers.

With this in mind, we have created an updated set of guidelines for teaching staff which aim to ensure consistency across classes and stages. We want to ensure that we are providing a balance of activities to engage pupils without overwhelming parents with information.



A communication with more details for parents and carers will be sent out next week.

New Primary 1 for August 2020

Yesterday evening we sent out an email to the parents and carers of our new Primary 1 pupils, with a letter for pupils and one for parents. We welcomed them to Calderwood and began to outline what our P1 Transition Programme would look like while our school remains closed.



It is really important that we can communicate with our new families, and the best way for us to do this at the moment is through our school App, Twitter page and email, so please keep an eye on these.

If you know any families who are new to Calderwood and due to start with us in August, please ask them to check their email and contact me if they haven't heard anything yet.

Google Classrooms

Calderwoodies – remember when you are in Google Classrooms to post a quick 'hello' to your teacher to let them know that you are there. They are missing you all very much and working hard, so it will really cheer them up!

Pupil Equity Funding

Pupil Equity Funding (PEF) is money given directly to schools by the Scottish Government to target interventions which aim to close the poverty-related attainment gap.

The Scottish Government have just released the allocations for Session 2020/2021. In addition, they have also told schools what their allocation will be for Session 2021/2022 to allow us to plan our spending further ahead. Our allocations are as follows:

- **Session 2020/2021: £58,740**
- **Session 2021/2022: £61,260**

This is a substantial increase from this session's £50,400.

This year we spent the majority of our allocated money on additional teaching hours. This allowed us to run a range of targeted interventions with groups of pupils to support their learning in literacy and numeracy. We were also able to run nurture-based groups to support the health and wellbeing of pupils. In addition to this, we also used our PEF money to purchase resources for health and wellbeing (Jigsaw) and literacy (Active Literacy and additional reading materials). These purchases benefitted all pupils in the school.

We will plan our future spend as we review our School Improvement Plan over the coming weeks - hopefully with input from staff, pupils and parents – and we will keep you updated.

Primary Seven Leavers



Stonelaw High School will start their distance transition programme from Monday 11th May - please keep an eye on their Twitter page and the P7 Transition page on their website.



Cathkin High School are putting all of their transition information onto their Twitter page. If your child is due to start at Cathkin in August, remember to check this every Tuesday and Thursday.

Supporting Families

Last week we put out a call to all families asking if we could help them to access IT devices, broadband or school supplies to support distance learning, sanitary products, food or other essential items.

We are now regularly delivering food parcels, and there is still plenty of provision if this is something that would benefit your family.

South Lanarkshire Council are currently in the process of procuring the other items. In the current circumstances, this is taking longer than normal, but they will be with families as soon as possible.

As always, if there is anything we can do to support you and your family, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

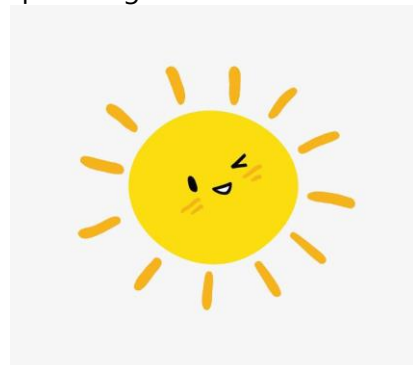


Inset Day and VE Day Holiday Thursday 7th and Friday 8th May

Tomorrow (Thursday 7th May) is an Inset Day. This means that there will be no work posted on individual Google Classrooms. Staff will be engaging in professional learning opportunities, specifically focusing on widening the range of digital resources we can use to enhance distance learning for pupils. Please head over to the whole-school Google Classroom for activities to see you over the weekend.

Friday 8th May is a Bank Holiday. Normal Google Classroom service will resume on Monday 11th May.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend – hopefully the sun will keep shining for us!



Pupil Challenge

Thank you so much to everyone who sent in your fantastic mascot designs (see below). You really are a creative bunch! Remember – you have until Friday to submit your idea for a mascot to help introduce our Primary 1s to Calderwood.

Send in your drawings of Calderwood

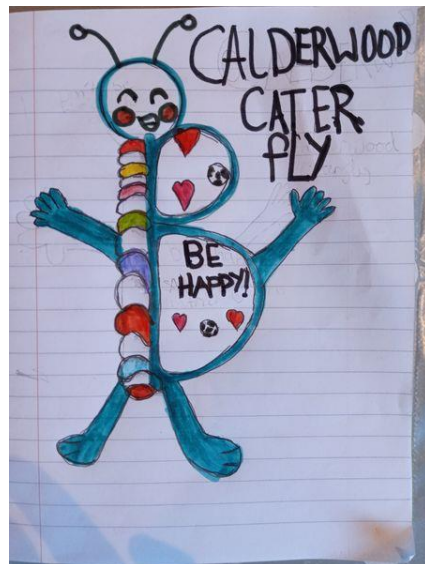
This week's Pupil Challenge: I am sure that you are all missing Calderwood Primary School as much as I am, so let's see your drawings of our school to decorate the first page of our next Calderwood Chronicle newsletter. You can draw any part of the school, inside or out. Send a photo of your drawing to Mrs Innes at gw14calderwoodht@glow.sch.uk.

Design a Calderwood mascot!

Here are some of the brilliant mascot designs that I have received so far.



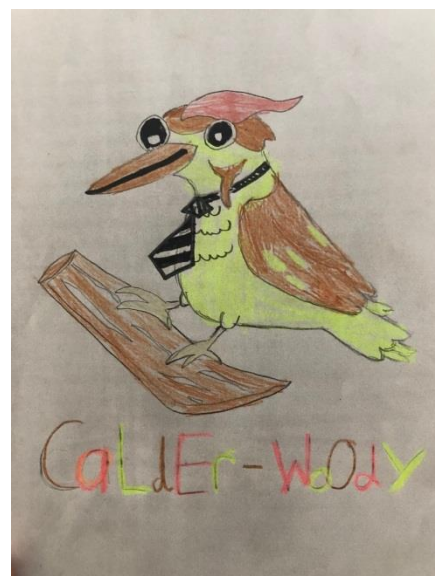
Freya Magee (P2)



Alexandra Bannatyne (P5)



Alessia Equi (P5)



Zoey Richmond (P3)



Niamh Bell (P4)



Ava Cintron (P6)

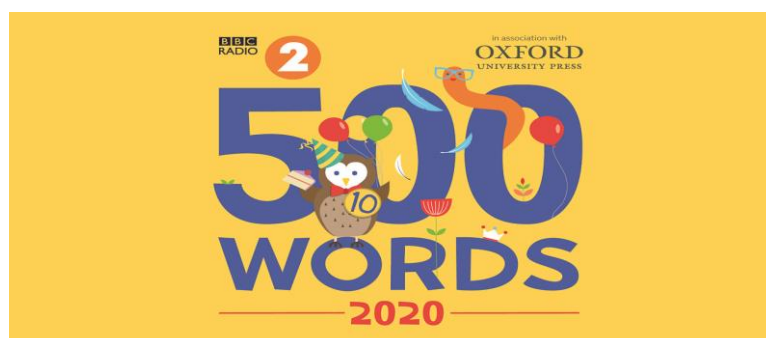
500 Words

Our 500 Words Lunchtime Club worked very hard with Mrs Holtham to produce some fantastic pieces of writing, which they entered into BBC Radio 2's 500 Words competition. Every week we will share an extract from some of these wonderful pieces.

An extract from Marianna Medina's story (Primary 7)....

It was a dark and gloomy day at the usually bright and cheerful Newborns' Hospital. All anyone could hear for miles was the eerie wail of baby Lunara Gales. From the moment she opened her eyes for the first time, the terrified Lunara knew she didn't fit in. In fact, she knew she would never fit in. She had a deep, dark secret that she told no-one about.

Everywhere she went, Lunara caused chaos. No-one knew that she was the one who made the fire alarm go off at her third birthday party, or that she caused dreadful Storm Fred that destroyed the lovely Mrs. Willow's beautiful home. It wasn't her fault. She couldn't control herself. She had no clue how she was doing it; she couldn't even tell anyone else about her doing it, but she knew that *she* was doing it.



Achievements

Remember Calderwoodies, we want to hear all about your adventures and achievements – everything we would normally celebrate at our weekly assembly.

Remind your grown-up to let me know what you have been up to so we can celebrate your successes, whatever they might be!



A huge well done to Kyle van den Brink (Primary 6) who has been accepted to the Performance Agency and will be put forward for potential TV and other media work.

He joined the Performance Academy less than a year ago and they encouraged him to audition. He was asked to create a 5-minute film introducing himself and his family and talking about how they are coping with social distancing. This will be put forward as an application for a potential TV advert. How exciting, Kyle – well done!

Another big well done – this time to Katee in Primary 5 who spent an afternoon making a wonderful board game that included numeracy, literacy, drama and PE activities. She made all the cards herself and it was a lot of fun playing it with her whole family.

This is brilliant, Katee – you are always so creative. I think there might be a market for this at the moment, you should be copywriting your creation!



Katie Queen (Primary 2) has completed and passed her grading for Taekwondo. She has now moved onto Black Stripe belt. Her family are so proud of all her hard work – well done, Katie and keep it up! Everyone at Calderwood is very proud of you too!

Achievements (continued...)

Well done to Harley in Primary 3. As part of his Beaver's badge work and superhero-themed camp he has made a bookmark and completed the 'Six Books Reading Challenge' for his Book Reader badge. He has made his own superhero-themed McDonald's Happy Meal box to bring a Friday-night treat home. He also made a superhero shield and cuffs as part of his Creativity Badge work. He toasted marshmallows (yum!) and made a healthy breakfast, which he then had with his family in the tent they put up. Harley is also enjoying baking and learning to weigh ingredients out – and he is even tidying up the mess! Wow, Harley, you have been incredibly busy using lots of your literacy and numeracy skills and being very creative. I am so impressed - well done!



Here is another fabulous game, this time created by Cameron (Primary 6). He created the game as part of a school challenge. He worked really hard on it, and it includes his cat Angus and his classmates' cats, too. Well done, Cameron, this looks very professional and is a great idea for a game – I think we could get a wee business going here! Angus looks like he's taking it very seriously indeed – is he a competitive cat?



Thank You!



A big Calderwood 'thank you' to Ben and Arianna McGrattan (P7 and P5) for all their hard work and commitment with helping to build 'Lola's Hoppity Hoppity Hotel', named in memory of Lola, who the family sadly lost earlier this year.

What an incredible job you all did – this looks beautiful. We might need to get you working in our school garden!



We would also like to wish Ben a very happy 12th birthday. He was unable to celebrate in Florida as planned due to Covid19.

Happy birthday, Ben – we hope you still had a great day!

Contacts

If you need to make contact with a member of staff from the school, please email:

Mrs Innes: gw14calderwoodht@glow.sch.uk

Mrs Ring: gw07ringjillian@glow.sch.uk

Mrs Combe: gw10combeashley@glow.sch.uk

Mrs Kirkland: gw10kirklandjulie2@glow.sch.uk

Mrs Waddell (ICT-related enquiries): gw07waddellmaureen01@glow.sch.uk

Remember to send in your stories achievements, ideas, shout-outs and thank-yous to Mrs Innes at gw14calderwoodht@glow.sch.uk .

COVID-19

Community wellbeing telephone line

The Community Wellbeing Line will help you in the current COVID-19 Pandemic. It is not for emergencies such as when you might need Police or Ambulance services, or for enquiries about normal council services like bin collections. You should continue to make use of the usual telephone numbers for these.

It will link you to community volunteers in your area who can:

- Deliver food packs to you
- Deliver hearing aid batteries to you
- Help with other essentials such as baby milk or pet food
- Post letters for you
- Check you are okay in person or by telephone
- Possibly some other things, if you let us know what you need

Some of our volunteers may be able to help collect prescriptions for you.

Your volunteer will either have a council name badge or a letter from the Chief Executive to confirm who they are.

If you have an underlying health condition and have been advised to self-isolate for a period, then you should make us aware of this so we can assess what your needs are.

Guidance for people who are being helped by community volunteers

We need you to help make sure both you and the volunteers helping you remain safe by:

- Only asking your volunteer to do the tasks that have been agreed in advance with the helpline
- To help with infection control, making sure you don't ask them or let them come into your home
- Not giving money to your volunteer to carry out tasks
- Following any current advice about infection control that is coming from the government

You may find that someone comes to your house to check you are okay. This could be because a neighbour or family member has contacted the telephone line with a concern. Please let the volunteer know that you are all right, or if you need any assistance, and they can report this back. You do not need to open your door to do this; make sure you keep safe in the ways you usually would. Volunteers will be able to have a conversation with you from behind the door or through a window.

You can contact the Community Wellbeing Phone Line on

0303 123 1009

The lines are open from 9am–5pm Monday to Friday

**Can Do
Community**

We hope everyone working together to help will make sure you stay safe and well.

If you need this information in a different format or language, please contact us to discuss how we can best meet your needs. **Phone:** 0303 123 1015 **Email:** equalities@southlanarkshire.gov.uk
www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk

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Education Resources
Psychological Service

Covid-19 advice and support

What for?

Advice/phone consultation for
additional support at this time

Who for?

School staff/other professionals,
parents/carers and young people

How to contact:

phone: 01698 455800, 10am-3pm,
Monday – Friday (leave message)

email: enquiries@slcpsych.org.uk

If you need this information in another language or format, please contact us to discuss how we can best meet your needs.

Phone: 0303 123 1015 Email: equalities@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

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