

Welcome Back Newsletter

Thursday 20th August 2020

Issued with this newsletter...

- Checklist for pupils and parents
- Parent Council welcome letter (Primary 1 only)
- Credit Union letter

Well, it has certainly been the strangest start to a school session most of us have ever had, but it is probably the most meaningful, too. That is because, despite everything that is happening around us, and all the new challenges we face as a school community, we have welcomed all our young learners back to Calderwood. I know the past couple of weeks will have been an anxious time for many of our parents, pupils and staff. Returning to school is always a time of mixed emotions – excitement, nervousness, uncertainty – and new routines, but this year even more so than ever. Our Calderwoodies have had a very positive start to the session and I am very proud of all of them, not only for how well they coped throughout lockdown, but how seamlessly they have also managed the return to school.

Thank *you* all very much for your continued support and patience as we work through the measures we have to put in place to ensure the safe return to school for all whilst still maintaining a happy, welcoming learning environment – a fine balancing act, indeed. We are continuing to monitor these regularly and make changes where necessary.

I would like to take this opportunity to formally welcome our new Primary 1 pupils and their families to the Calderwood community. They are a great bunch! I would also like to welcome all our new members of staff, more details about them are below.

Here's to a successful, productive and fun year of learning at Calderwood.
Take care and stay safe,

Mrs Innes 



Staffing

We are absolutely delighted to welcome Miss Scambler (Primary 5/4, Room 9), Miss Black (Primary 3, Room 6), Ms McGuinness (Primary 5, Room 11) and Miss McIntosh (Room 9 all day Thursday and Tuesday afternoon) to Team Calderwood – it's great to have you all on board. Mrs Cairns will be working Monday to Thursday and will be sharing her class with Ms Gray, who is now only working Thursday and Friday.

Unfortunately, we also have some staff absence at the moment. Mrs Bloomer (Primary 7, Room 14) had a fall at the weekend and will be absent for a few weeks whilst she recuperates. Miss Patterson (support staff) is recovering from major surgery. Mrs Glassford (support staff/office) is not at work for family reasons. We are thinking about you all and missing you very much.



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Communication

Our main method of communication will remain the school App, with updates going on Twitter, our website and Parent Council Facebook pages too. If you have not already downloaded the App, please do so, and let us know if you have any issues.

Next week our Tuesday Newsday weekly news update for parents and carers will be revived. As an eco-conscious school, this will now be issued digitally, with an 'opt in' for paper copies. If you would still prefer to receive a paper copy, please email me at gw14calderwoodht@glow.sch.uk.



School Guidance

I have issued a checklist for both pupils and parents and carers with this newsletter. I would ask that you read this through, discuss the 'pupil' section with your child and pass on information to anyone who helps you with picking up or dropping off children.

Please support us by following the guidance we have in place to ensure a safe start and finish to the school day for all. We know that these measures are not ideal, and many go against how we normally operate at Calderwood, but it is essential that we are working to Scottish Government and SLC guidance around the safe opening of schools. Please do not put staff in the awkward position of having to be 'the baddies' or having to turn down requests they cannot fulfil. Thank you for your support and understanding at this time.

Lost Property

At the moment we are unable to have a central storage area for lost property. Classes will keep unclaimed items in a space within the room. **Please help us by ensuring all your child's belongings have their name on them.** This makes it much easier to return items to their owner. Please also encourage your child to double check they have everything before they leave the school. Please also check items that are coming home with your child are theirs – we have had some labelled items of clothing disappear already. Thank you!



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

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