



Canberra Primary School and Nursery Newsletter 1

September 2022



Message from Mrs Heasman

Dear Parent/Carer

We are delighted to have returned to a normal school year and hope that all of our plans will go ahead as expected! The children from Nursery to Primary 7 are confident and happy in their new routines and classes. We look forward to welcoming you in to Meet the Teacher and our Early Years staff (returning nursery children only) at 2 events we have planned in September, the details have been sent out and the dates are noted below.

As we move into Autumn we hope to get outside as often as possible for learning and play. Please provide your child with layers to keep them warm and a waterproof jacket and shoes as we will be going out in all weathers (except high winds and torrential rain).

The Parent Council resumes its meetings from Monday 19th September and all parents (including nursery) are invited to become a member. The first meeting is a drop in at the school, and parents/carers can come along (bringing their children if required) to meet the Parent Council and to find out more about their work and how to become involved. Please contact the school office if you wish to come along to the first meeting, even if it is just to see what goes on before making a decision to join.

We look forward to working with you over the coming months as we all support our wonderful children to progress, achieve and have fun #CanberraFamily.

Regards Angela Heasman



Contents

- Dates for your diary
- Canberra's Vision, Values and Aims
- Hints and tips for a successful start to the year
- Our staff and classes 2022-23

- School communication
- Reporting your child's absence
- Important school policies

Dates for your diary



15.9.22	Meet the Teacher 6.30-7.30pm/Nursery Stay & Play 3.15-4.00pm
23-27.9.22	September Weekend holiday - Return to school/nursery 27.9.22, 9am
5.10.22	Flu vaccination
10.10.22	Progress Week
17-21.10.22	October Half term break - return to school/nursery 24.10.22, 9am

Canberra's Vision, Values and Aims

As you know we refreshed our school vision and values in June 2022. Our consultation with parents supported the changes proposed by our children and staff. Our new Vision, Aims and Values are noted below.

Canberra's Vision Statement

Nurturing, Inspiring, Striving and Working Together at Canberra and Beyond

Canberra's Aims

To promote a culture of hard work, dedication and strength of character

To create an innovative and flexible learning environment that encourages achievement for all

To encourage a school community where everyone feels they belong and no-one is left out

To ensure that we all have the confidence and skills to maximise our potential

Canberra's Values

Happiness	Inclusion	Respect
Safety	Honesty	Belonging

Hints and Tips for a successful start to the year



- Children require to bring a sharp pencil and a rubber to school on a daily basis. They should be encouraged to look after their belongings and school property.
- Children will participate in gym for two hours weekly and it is vital that they bring gym kit to school. Clean trainers are preferable for gym as they give good support.
- We operate an indoor shoes policy to preserve the life and cleanliness of our carpets.
- Please label all items of clothing as children often misplace things and without their name it is very difficult to match items to their owner.
- Canberra book bags can be purchased from the office and are a good way to keep homework materials, including reading books, organised and in good condition.
- Please note that South Lanarkshire Council have a 'No football colours' policy and this extends to pencil cases, bags and jewellery as well as items of clothing.
- Canberra runs a breakfast club between 8.15-8.45am. Milk, cereal and toast are available free of charge. Please note children will go into the playground once they have finished eating as this is only a breakfast club and not a childcare facility.

MOBILE PHONES: Children are welcome to bring mobile phones to school. All phones will be stored switched off in children's school bags. Mobile phones will not be allowed in the school playground during breaks. Please note that children are responsible for the safekeeping of their phone and any loss or breakage should be covered by your home insurance policy.

Our staff and classes 2022-23



Nursery	Mrs McNulty - Team Leader Miss Ciciala, Mrs Henderson, Mrs Kaczan, Miss Kerr, Mrs Lipsett, Miss McDonald, Miss Wakeham
Primary 1, Room 1	Mrs Perrie
Primary 2, Room 2	Miss Bhopal (Monday-Thursday am) Miss Souter (Thursday pm & Friday)
Primary 3, Room 4	Mrs Glen
Primary 4, Room 5	Mrs Gourlay/Miss McMillan
Primary 5, Room 6	Miss Bryce
Primary 6, Room 8	Mr Hamilton
Primary 7, Room 9	Mrs Burns
CCC	Miss Bruce, Miss Souter
Additional teacher	Mrs McCulloch
Head teacher	Mrs Heasman
Principal Teacher	Mrs Graham
Office Team Leader	Mrs McLean
Support Assistants	Miss Cairns, Mrs Cuthbert, Mrs Ewart, Mrs Palfreman, Ms Mogford
Janitors	Mr Nicholls/Mr Sykes
Kitchen staff	Mrs MacDonald, Mrs Brady, Mrs Morrison, Mrs Southworth
Cleaning staff	Mrs Collins, Mrs Lawrence, Mrs Jamieson, Mr Sykes

School communication



We communicate with parents in a variety of ways which include -

School website

Updated weekly the school website contains new of events and things happening in school and nursery. It is also home to important documents such as the school improvement plan and class newsletters which provide families with more detailed information about their child's class.

Twitter

Twitter is used to celebrate success, inform about the ongoing work in classes and to pass on important information. Our Twitter accounts are for one way communication from the school only and isn't monitored for parent/carer queries or comments. Follow your child's class and the school on Twitter

@Canberra Primary for school news

@Canberranursery for nursery news

@CanberraRoom1, @CanberraRoom2, @CanberraRoom4, @CanberraRoom5, @CanberraRoom6, @CanberraRoom8, @CanberraRoom9 for class news

Email

All personal, class and whole school information is communicated by email and where appropriate (e.g. forms to be completed) is followed up in paper based format. If you have any queries please don't hesitate to contact the school by emailing the school office on gw14canberrapsoffice@glow.sch.uk or calling on 01355 224362.

Sway

A monthly Sway (newsletter) is produced by the school which gives parents/carers important information about events, successes, learning and the school curriculum. The nursery also produces

a monthly Sway which also has hints, tips and home learning experiences included as well as information about the nursery. These newsletters are uploaded to the school website.

Reporting to parents

We report to parents in 3 ways.

Firstly a tracking report 3 times a year in November, February and June which gives parents/carers information about their child's progress and attainment (school only).

Secondly we have two face to face parent and child consultations with Keyworkers and Class teachers in November and February.

Finally a written report is produced and sent out to parents/carers in May (school) and June (nursery). This records attainment levels and written comments about children's progress. The tracking report in June will provide parents/carers with their child's final attainment levels for the year.

Nursery

Nursery also communicate with parents to discuss individual target setting and settling new children into nursery. This is done face to face or by phone depending on parent/carer circumstances.

Reporting your child's absence



Our early alert system helps us to keep our children safe. South Lanarkshire Council has issued guidelines should there be unexplained absence.

What parents and carers can do to help us:

- inform us of absences by telephone within the first hour of the morning or half hour in the afternoon
- keep us informed of any changes of address, landline and mobile numbers, including work numbers
- remind your child that if they are late they must report to the office before going to class

At Canberra:

- we endeavour to have someone in the office from 8.30am to take messages

- teaching staff will notify the office if a child is not in class by 9.15am or 1.15pm
- school support staff will telephone the parents/carer of a child where no notification of absence has been received
- school support staff will telephone the emergency contact if parents cannot be spoken to

If we are unable to make contact with either of the above we will:

- send out a letter
- seek advice from other agencies, where appropriate

A letter explaining absence **must** be sent to the school on your child's return. Thank you.

Important school policies



NUT FREE SCHOOL

For the safety of children and adults in school who have a nut allergy, Canberra Primary is a nut free zone. This includes foodstuffs, which contain nuts, such as Nutella spread and chocolate bars such as Snickers.

Please help us by checking the content of the snacks and packed lunches that your child brings to school.

THANK YOU

PE

Children will participate in 2 hours PE per week. They must wear appropriate clothing for both indoor and outdoor PE. This includes shorts/t-shirt/joggers/leggings and gym shoes, preferably trainers as these provide support and a good grip. We are working hard to help your child maintain a good level of health and fitness and appreciate your support in providing the clothing that allows them to participate in PE. If you have any difficulties in accessing the required clothing please contact the school office.

DOGS

Following South Lanarkshire Council guidance, Canberra is a dog free zone. This is to protect both our service users and the dog. Please don't bring dogs onto school grounds.

WATER

Please be aware that South Lanarkshire Council policy encourages children to re-hydrate during the school day. This should take the form of plain water. Flavoured water and soft drinks are not permitted. The school has two water fountains which children can use to refill water bottles **at break times**, to minimise disruption to learning.

PARENT CONTACT

Please be aware that we must have a working telephone number for at least one parent/carer that we can reliably use in an emergency. There are some circumstances where we would want to speak to a parent/carer and not their nominated emergency contact. These include: an accident where an ambulance is called for your child; an accident in school grounds involving your nominated emergency contact; extreme behaviour on the part of your child requiring immediate support from a parent/carer.

Please also ensure that you inform us of changes to your contact details as soon as you can.