



# Canberra Primary and Nursery Class Newsletter no.2

September 2024

Message from Mrs Heasman



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*Dear Parent/Carer*

*Everyone at school is now in the swing of getting up in the morning and enjoying our days of learning.  
We are all looking forward to sharing what is going on in classes at our Meet the Teacher and Early*

*Years (returning nursery children only) events on 12th September. We hope that you can come along to begin your child's 2024-25 learning journey with us!*

*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).*

*This year we will build upon our highly successful HMIe report, driving forward to make learning at Canberra of an even higher quality than it is at present. We will focus on further developing play based learning, improving teaching approaches, developing Year 3 of our Science programme, building towards the Reading Schools Award, starting our journey towards full Attachment accreditation, developing our knowledge of supports within numeracy & maths and working with our Learning Community on transition and moderation of writing. It's going to be a busy year and one which will ensure that our children continue to receive the best experiences possible.*

*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.*

Best wishes

Angela Heasman

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## Dates for your diary



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- 10.9.24 *Glasgow Times Primary 1 photo*
  - 12.9.24 *Meet the Teacher (6.30-7.30pm)*
  - 12.9.24 *Nursery returners Stay & Play (3-4pm)*
  - 27-30.9.24 *September Weekend (return 01.10.24, 9am)*
    - 7.10.24 *Progress Week*
  - 7.10.24 *Parent Council meeting 6.30pm (all welcome)*
  - 14-18.10.24 *October half term holiday (return 21.10.24, 9am)*
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## Canberra's Vision, Values and Aims



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*Canberra's Vision, Aims and Values underpin everything we do. They were created in consultation with children, parents/carers and staff.*

### **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*

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## Hints and Tips for a successful start to the year



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- *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.*
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*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.*

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## Parent Council

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*The Parent Council supports the school by helping with decision making and raising funds. They meet regularly and are an important part of school life. All parents/carers from Nursery-P7 are eligible to join the Parent Council. If you would like to find out more about the Parent Council and the work that it does please come along to a meeting, in the school, on the first Monday of the month, attending won't commit you to joining, but will hopefully provide you with the information that you need to make a decision about whether participating is for you!*

*Parent Council meeting dates for 2024-25 are as follows:*

*7.10.24 Meeting 6.30-8.00pm*

*4.11.24 Meeting 6.30-8.00pm*

*2.12.24 Meeting 6.30-8.00pm*

*13.1.25 Meeting 6.30-8.00pm*

*3.2.25 Meeting 6.30-8.00pm*

*3.3.25 Meeting 6.30-8.00pm*

*6.5.25 Meeting 6.30-8.00pm*

*tbc Summer Fair*

*2.6.25 Meeting 6.30-8.00pm*

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## Attendance and Reporting your child's absence



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### Supporting good attendance

*South Lanarkshire Council set out its purpose which is to:*

- (1) Raise achievement and attainment*
- (2) Inspire learners*
- (3) Transform learning*
- (4) Work in partnership to strengthen our communities*

*One of our key priorities is to ensure that inclusion and equality are at the heart of what we do. Absence from school, whatever the cause, disrupts learning, can have an adverse impact on participation, attainment, peer relationships, health and wellbeing and ultimately positive life outcomes for our children and young people.*

*Mrs Gourlay monitors absences, following South Lanarkshire Council's policy. The policy is based on National guidance "Included, Engaged and Involved (Part 1): A Positive Approach to the Promotion and Management of Attendance in Scottish Schools" and is designed to provide support for families to maintain good attendance at school. Mrs Gourlay will be in touch with families of children whose attendance falls below 95% (as per the guidance) to highlight that attendance is falling and to offer support where required.*

## Reporting 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:*

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- 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*
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*At Canberra:*

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

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

## School extra curricular activities

This term we have some new and exciting opportunities for our children.

### ***Musical Theatre lessons***

New Jennaration dance studio are delivering Musical Theatre lessons for 8 weeks to Primary 4 and 5. The children are loving the opportunity to develop confidence and skills in the expressive arts and to try something new.

### ***Kids' Kitchen***

Facilities are beginning a 4 week cooking block for P5-7 beginning on 11th September. The children will learn about food hygiene and how to prepare food, taking part in practical cooking classes.

### ***Dance and Hip-hop classes***

New Jennaration dance studio are running after school dance classes in Canberra on a Thursday 3-3.55pm, at a cost of £3.75 per class. A dance class and a boys hip-hop class will run and are open to all age groups. Parents/carers can book directly with New Jennaration through the link below-

<https://njdc.classforkids.io>

### ***School trips***

All classes will participate in a school trip in the first term. We are currently organising the trips and will let you know the destinations as soon as we have them. The cost of the trips is being funded by the Parent Council from the funds raised at the Summer Fair.



2. *Add family members, and register a card to player profiles. Set up a team or join an existing one.*
  3. *Start your journey. Find your nearest Beat Box using a paper or digital map and hover your card at the contactless Beat Box until it beeps and flashes. If playing with the app, tap the Beat Box icon on your phone and swipe to collect points.*
  4. *Visit 2 Beat Boxes within an hour and collect 10 points for each Beat Box – this is 20 points for the journey.*
  5. *Carry on your journey. Score 10 points for each extra Box you visit.*
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*By playing with our Beat the Street App you can get access to exclusive features – collect Gems, choose an avatar, and raise the competition with our team leaderboards. There is so much to discover!*

*Packs will be sent home in week commencing 9th September! We can't wait to get started!*

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