

# Cedarbank School

# Newsletter

## December 2021



### Head Teacher's News

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am delighted to introduce our Christmas newsletter. Our aim is to share with you the wonderful learning activities that our young people have participated in this term. As a school community, we have enjoyed a variety of successes across the curriculum and in wider achievement, despite the ongoing Coronavirus restrictions. We are delighted to have received our Bronze Rights Respecting School Award and have had our verification meeting for the Digital Schools award this week.

Our Twitter account will keep you updated daily on the learning experiences and successes of all of our young people at Cedarbank. So, if you don't already follow us on Twitter, please do.

This term has been a bit different as we all prepare ourselves for the move to the new school. A lot of work has been done on redesigning the school badge and revisiting our school vision and values. BAM (the construction company) have worked in partnership with our school to offer a variety of curriculum opportunities in Art and English and S3-6 enjoyed a construction morning at Cedarbank. All classes will have the opportunity to visit the new school, if they have not done so already, in the coming months.

We have had some staff changes this term. John Ward left us early in the term after working at Cedarbank for 22 years. He was well known for leadership of the S6 Leavers Programme at Armadale Academy. Vicky Cairns, our Principal Teacher left recently for a new post closer to home. Ruth Duncan and Lauren Orr will also leave us at the Christmas break for new posts. We thank them all for their contribution to Cedarbank and wish them all every success in their new jobs.

This term, we have welcomed two new teachers Zoe Bathgate and Rosie Steele and 4 Pupil Support Workers : Lindsay Baker, Elle Brown, Lauren Millar and Shari Bonadie . In January Kaitlynn Mendenhall will join us from Ogilvie School Campus as our new PT.

Your children bring love and joy to our Cedarbank community every day. We wish you and your children a safe and very happy holiday packed with fun and laughter.

Merry Christmas and Best Wishes to you all for the New Year,  
Mrs Carol McDonald

*Mrs Carol McDonald*

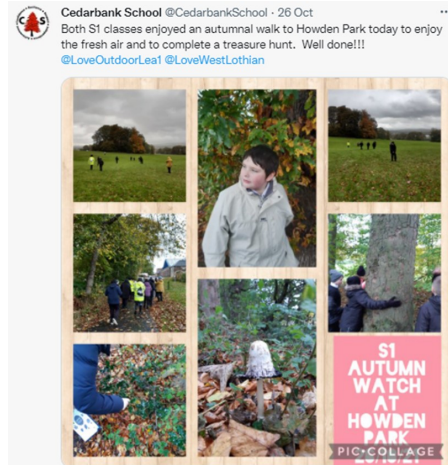


# Outdoor Learning

We enjoy learning outdoors in a variety of subject areas and through Personal Achievement Awards.







## ASDAN and Other Qualifications

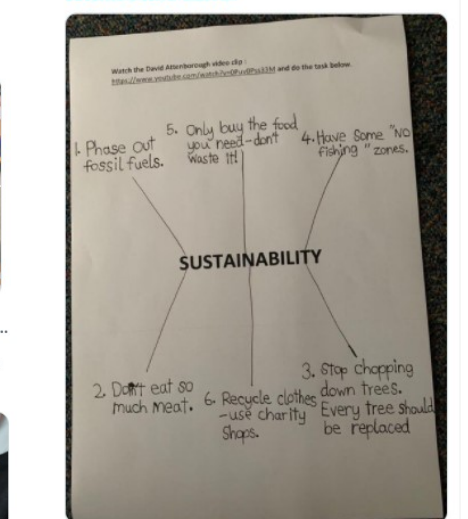
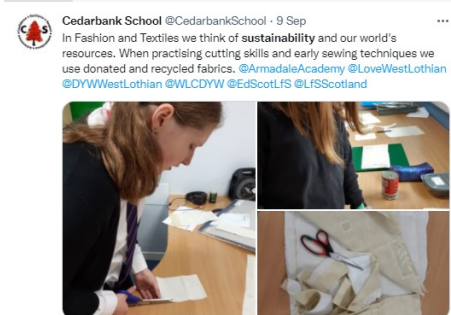
ASDAN qualifications allow our pupils to achieve in different ways to the traditional academic subjects. Along with other qualifications such as the John Muir Award and the Blue Peter Green Badge we offer our pupils even more opportunities.





# Sustainability

COP 26 prompted us to explore climate change and sustainability through relevant and active learning experiences which enabled our learners to see the benefits of living in a more sustainable way.





# Developing the Young Workforce

Developing skills for life, learning and work lies at the heart of our curriculum. Our learners have enjoyed a variety of work based activities this term.

Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 30 Nov  
3C enjoying construction activities today. Builders of the future!  
[@LoveWestLothian](#)



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 27 Oct  
Senior pupils had a really interesting morning learning about how the construction industry are using sustainable energy like electric vehicles and solar energy. #balfourbeatty #cop26 #renewableenergy #sustainability #dywwestlothian @LoveWestLothian @WLCDYW @DYWWestLothian



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 1 Dec  
More pictures from our construction event yesterday. Senior pupil enjoying the activities.  
#DYW @LoveWestLothian



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 30 Nov  
Fabulous results from our Christmas Tree pallet project. Just part of the fun activities some of our pupils took part in today! @LoveWestLothian



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 30 Nov  
Construction skills in operation this morning for our senior pupils.  
[@LoveWestLothian](#)  
[#BAMconstruction](#)  
[#lovewestlothian](#)  
[#dywwestlothian](#)  
[#dyw](#)  
[#skillsforlearninglifeandwork](#)



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 28 Oct  
S3 had the opportunity to visit @balfourbeatty sustainable construction site today and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. @WLCDYW @LoveWestLothian @WL\_STEM



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 30 Nov  
2B enjoying the activities at Mill Farm today. Looked like a lot of fun.  
[@LoveWestLothian](#)



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 1 Dec  
We created raised beds and tried to guess the age of the trees by counting the rings. #outdoorlearning #Asdan @LoveWestLothian



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 30 Nov  
2B also enjoyed the exhibits and animals at Mill Farm. Mrs Love did too!!  
[@LoveWestLothian](#)



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 22 Nov  
Some of our S3 boys enjoyed their first visit to the gym @WestLoCollege this morning. Thanks for having us!!!  
[@LoveWestLothian](#) @ActiveWL



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 18 Nov  
Our Senior pupils enjoyed their visit to @vuecinemas Livingston as part of the @intofilm\_scout @intofilm\_edu festival. Looks like they all had a great time!!!  
[@LoveWestLothian](#)



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 17 Nov  
2B gave their @intofilm\_edu @intofilm\_scout experience @vuecinemas Livingston a thumbs up yesterday. @LoveWestLothian



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 16 Nov  
All set for our @intofilm\_scout morning @vuecinemas Livingston.  
[@LoveWestLothian](#)



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 28 Oct  
Our Senior pupils visited Balfour Beatty's sustainable construction event at Shotts today. We especially liked the electric JCBs and lorries. #dyw #balfourbeatty #cop26 #sustainability @LoveWestLothian @balfourbeatty @EdScotLFS @LFSScotland @WL\_STEM @WLCDYW



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 28 Oct  
S3 visited @BalfourBeatty today to see their #sustainableevolutionshowcase for #Cop26 as part of their DYW learning and #YoungSTEMleadership week. They learned about some of the ways the construction industry is reducing CO2 emissions. #dyw





# Theme Weeks and Virtual Events

Building connections throughout the curriculum are important. At Cedarbank we regularly have theme weeks where all subject areas can join in and connect. These include: Maths Week, Modern Languages Week and our ever popular Autumnwatch Week. In addition we take part in many virtual events which bring the world of work to us without having to leave the classroom.



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 3 Dec  
#mismatchedsocks #inclusion #proudofwhoare #idpwr2021



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 5 Nov  
Our English and Literacy work during European Languages Week and National Poetry Day last month was inspired by Guillaume Apollinaire and his book 'Calligrammes'. We used what we learned to make shape poetry with everyday words that English borrows from European languages.



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 1 Oct  
S2 designed water filters yesterday as part of their STEM challenge for Maths Week Our World theme. They used some really interesting materials including pine cones today which worked really well. @WL\_STEM @RaiseScotland #MathsWeekScot @LoveWestLothian



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 29 Oct  
Some of our classes raffled pumpkins to finish off our fabulous Autumnwatch Week. Congratulations to our winners!!! Thank you to @Morrison's for donating them. ❤️ #Autumnwatch. 🍂



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 29 Oct  
S2 finished off Autumnwatch Week with some literacy and numeracy activities this morning. @LoveWestLothian @wl\_literacy @WLntimeracy



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 29 Oct  
Another entry for our door decorating competition came from 2A. The beautiful Cherry Tree!!! 🍒  
The overall winner will be tweeted soon... @LoveWestLothian



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 28 Oct  
Autumnwatch Week has been part of every curricular area and in Art pupils focused on the landscape Artist Andy Goldsworthy. Like the artist, pupils gathered objects from the nature around them to create 2D art pieces. #Autumnwatch @goldsworthy\_art @LoveOutdoorLea1



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 25 Oct  
2A did a mini treasure hunt for Autumnwatch Week in French today. They found 5 objects in French: l'arbre, la feuille, la branche, l'herbe, la pierre. @LoveWestLothian #Autumnwatch



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 8 Oct  
The Animal Care class had a great virtual visit with Rachel at Edinburgh Zoo exploring all the different jobs that exist in zoos. #dywive #westlothiandyw #asdananimalcare #rzzs #successfullerlearners



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 7 Oct  
Life Skills 2 made some fantastic phrase books and posters all about a country for Languages Week. Excellent work! @LoveWestLothian @deanschs #EuropeanLanguages



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 4 Oct  
Suas leis a' ghaidhlig!!  
2A have been learning colours in Scottish Gaelic this morning and finding out facts about Gaelic. They found the pronunciation and spelling very interesting!! @LoveWestLothian #EuropeanLanguagesandCulture



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 6 Oct  
2A learning about flags in Social Subjects as part of European Languages Week. Well done everyone! @LoveWestLothian #europeanlanguagesweek



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 29 Sep  
As part of the #MathsWeekScot Our World theme, we have been trying to develop a water filter that not only cleans the water but also gives us the biggest volume of clean water in the least time. S1 did a great job! @LoveWestLothian @WL\_STEM @RaiseScotland @EdScotLFS @LFSScotland



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 30 Sep  
Senior pupils were given the challenge of thinking of a strange or unusual job and saying how it uses Maths. They came up with sewage divers, a computer programmer, an anaesthetologist, an animal food taste tester, a gun smith, an orthoptist and a backstage designer. #MathsWeek



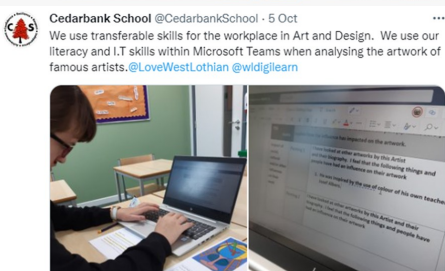
## New School

As we look forward to moving to our new school, we have had lots of visits to prepare our pupils for the move, as well as working with the contractors BAM, and designing a new badge.



## Digital Skills

Using digital technologies to enhance and support learning is key at Cedarbank. Our pupils use digital skills throughout the curriculum as well as dedicated digital skills lessons.





# STEAM

STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics) are highlighted throughout the session with the Young STEM Leaders award and events such as Maths Week and DeSTEAMber.

**Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 1h**  
As part of their ASDAN Science short course 3A made an indicator from red cabbage. They will use it to test different everyday solutions for acidity.  
[@ASDANeducation @WL\\_STEM @LoveWestLothian](#)



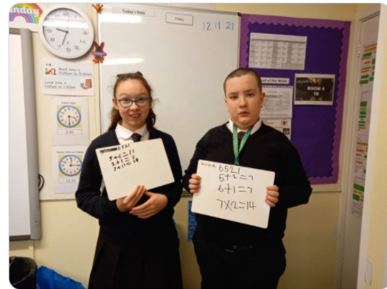
**Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 6 Dec**  
Getting down to some problem solving in 3C. [#problemSolving @LoveWestLothian](#)



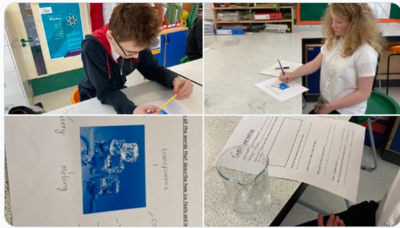
**Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 22 Nov**  
Class 1A carried out a Traffic Survey today. They used Tally Charts to keep count. [@LoveWestLothian](#)



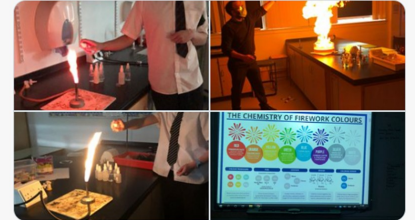
**Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 12 Nov**  
18 used number talk to explain their answers today. Excellent use of skills!  
[@WLMaths @LoveWestLothian](#)



**Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 9 Nov**  
2C enjoyed a sensory lesson in Science today when we looked and described how an ice cube feels and looks during the process of melting. Next, we are going to design an experiment to investigate the different ways to speed up the process. [@LoveWestLothian @WL\\_STEM @wl\\_literacy](#)



**Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 8 Nov**  
Pupils in National Science had fun learning about the chemistry of fireworks on Friday and had fun carrying out their own experiments. [@WL\\_STEM @deanschs](#)



**Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 5 Nov**  
Another busy week in our Food Technology kitchen. Our S2 pupils made Danish Pastries and S3 made Macaroni Cheese. Eating al fresco to enjoy our creations. [@LoveWestLothian #pedagooFriday](#)



**Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 4 Nov**  
For [#OutdoorClassroomDay](#), BGE students are making chalk fireworks by reacting an acid, with an alkali. Wait until you see the results!!!  
[@LoveWestLothian @WL\\_STEM @RaiseScotland](#)



**Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 2 Sep**  
In CDT [@deanschs](#) pupils are learning and developing skills using various machinery and tools to create their very own castle game!  
[@LoveWestLothian @DYWWestLothian @WLCOWW](#)



**Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 1 Nov**  
S2 got artistic in Science today when we made fireworks in a beaker. We changed our variables each time to see the difference. [@LoveWestLothian @WL\\_STEM @wl\\_literacy](#)



**Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 29 Oct**  
1A braved the wet weather today to collect leaves to start their leaf pigment chromatography experiment today. Looking forward to seeing their results  
[@LoveWestLothian @WL\\_STEM @LoveOutdoorLeat #pedagooFriday #autumnwatch](#)



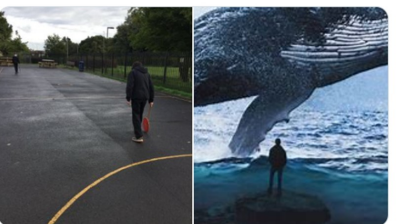
**Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 25 Oct**  
S1 and 2 were out collecting leaves today so they could do a leaf chromatography experiment. They're going to find the different colours that are in each leaf. [@LoveWestLothian @LoveOutdoorLeat @Autumnwatch](#)



**Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 25 Oct**  
As part of Autumnwatch Week, 2C are investigating the presence of different pigments in Autumn leaves. We carried out leaf chromatography and will see our results tomorrow. [@LoveWestLothian @LoveOutdoorLeat @WL\\_STEM](#)



**Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 30 Sep**  
2C have been busy taking Maths Week challenges outside this afternoon. We were challenged to find out if a Blue Whale would fit in our playground! The average blue whale is 30 metres in length and we are happy to report that it would fit in our playground! [#MathsWeekScotland](#)



**Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 4 Oct**  
S1 learned how to safely boil water using a Bunsen Burner in Science today. Well done in remembering all your safety steps and completing the task with confidence. [@LoveWestLothian @RaiseScotland @WL\\_STEM #confidence](#)



**Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 1 Oct**  
S1 had a busy morning today! Safely using Bunsen burners during a practical. And then completing their Our World Maths Week STEM challenge to design a water filter. Great work everyone! [@WL\\_STEM @RaiseScotland @LoveWestLothian #MathsWeekScotland](#)





# Expressive Arts and Physical Education

One of the great strengths of Cedarbank is our ability to encourage and help our pupils to flourish in ways other than the traditional 'academic' subjects. Through the expressive arts our pupils demonstrate they are confident individuals, successful learners, responsible citizens, and effective contributors.

**Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool - 20 Oct**  
We are so proud of this S6 pupil who competed in the Senior Open Class Women's British Disability competition. She won 2 Gold medals, 3 Silver medals and the overall trophy. Fantastic!!!! @LoveWestLothian @ActiveWL



**Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool - 3 Dec**  
Zips and rivets its December! Great construction skills in S6 Fashion and Textile technology with a learner taking down a zip ready for machining and a learner using brute force to add rivets to fabric. #fashionandtextiles #DYW @LoveWestLothian



**Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool - 18 Nov**  
Woohoo!!! Well done to this S3 pupil who successfully did a handstand in PE for the very FIRST time!!! @LoveWestLothian @ActiveWL



**Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool - 12 Nov**  
It's a Friday evening tongue twister to celebrate the great progress by this S6 Learner... She sells seashells by the sea shore. So if she sells shells on the seashore, I'm sure she sells seashore shells! @ArmadaAcademy @LoveWestLothian #pedagooFriday



**Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool - 15 Nov**  
This amazing pupil from 1B won a gymnastics competition at the weekend. Congratulations!!! We are so proud of your achievement!!!! @LoveWestLothian @ActiveWL



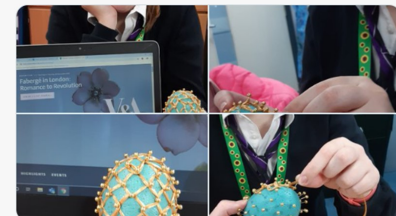
**Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool - 10 Nov**  
Learners in Fashion and Textiles are busy with their planning skills in drawing out the pattern pieces for their own designs of Messenger Bags. @LoveWestLothian @ArmadaAcademy



**Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool - 5 Nov**  
How fantastic do these S3 pupils look?!?! Lots of skills being used in their gymnastics block in PE. @LoveWestLothian



**Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool - 10 Nov**  
This Higher Art and Design learner is making her own Faberge eggs. We think it is beautiful enough to go into the V&A London Faberge exhibition opening on 20th November. @LoveWestLothian @ArmadaAcademy



**Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool - 3 Nov**  
3C started their gymnastics block in PE today and had the opportunity to get a feel for the equipment. Great start everyone!! @LoveWestLothian



**Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool - 26 Oct**  
Still life drawings delicious enough to eat made by two S4 Art and Design learners. Fantastic colour work using soft chalk pastels. @LoveWestLothian @deanschs



**Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool - 22 Oct**  
Higher Art making a bird's nest for her hat from different fabrics and wire beads. @LoveWestLothian @ArmadaAcademy



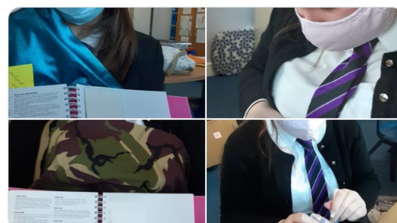
**Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool - 22 Oct**  
Fashion and Textiles learners are doing sensory tests with different types of cotton to understand their properties. Great group work using communication and literacy skills with everyone contributing. @LoveWestLothian @ArmadaAcademy



**Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool - 22 Oct**  
Experimental media work in Art and Design. Learners were using marbling and powder inks to create beautiful patterns on paper. @LoveWestLothian @ArmadaAcademy



**Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool - 21 Oct**  
In Fashion and Textiles we are using our senses to identify our chosen textiles from a fabric swatch book. Thinking of #COP26, we are also keen on repurposing textiles for our designs. @ArmadaAcademy @LoveWestLothian @EdScotLFS



**Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool - 30 Sep**  
Exploring, examining, testing and applying. Senior phase Art and Design pupils are using these in the process of creating their artworks. Fabulous focus from all! @deanschs @LoveWestLothian



**Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool - 26 Aug**  
How impressive do 2B look as they began their archery block in PE today with Mr Cox?!?! Future Olympians in the making!!!! @LoveWestLothian





## Christmas at Cedarbank

Despite not being able to enjoy our Christmas Assembly or Christmas Fayre as we usually would at this time of year, our pupils have still managed to make the most of the time of year with Christmas Lunch, making Christmas decorations and our very successful visit to the Pantomime.

Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 4h  
2B had their last Science lesson of the term on Wednesday. They investigated which snowflake ❄️ shape would fall the fastest. We were all surprised by the result! They then discussed which shape would be best for the snow to build an igloo #DeSTEAMber #STEM



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 16 Dec  
2A enjoyed their Christmas lunch yesterday. It was so lovely to spend some time together as a class listening to Christmassy songs 🎄🎵 #Christmas2021 @LoveWestLothian



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 14 Dec  
1A moved on to stage 2 of making Christmas wreaths. After some time outside they got down to making bows. It was tricky but they persevered! #Christmas2021 @LoveWestLothian



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 15 Dec  
3B have been learning about Christmas traditions in France. Joyeux Noël! #Christmas2021 @LoveWestLothian

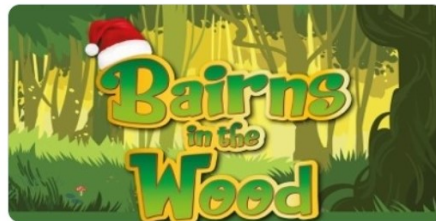


Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 15 Dec  
S3 enjoying Christmas lunch! #Christmas2021 @LoveWestLothian



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool

Staff and pupils enjoyed a safe visit to the Pantomime yesterday. We had the whole theatre to ourselves which meant we could spread out and enjoy the fun. We enjoyed the ice cream too! @ParkHowden @LoveWestLothian



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 8 Dec  
3A made some wonderful Christmas trees as part of our sustainable Christmas discussions during Outdoor Learning this afternoon. Apart from the paper tape and string, everything is from our school garden. #Learningoutdoors @LoveWestLothian



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 15 Dec  
S6 have completed their final order for Christmas decorations and friendship bracelet kits! #Enterprise @LoveWestLothian



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · 14 Dec  
S3 have been designing, baking and decorating Christmas cakes ... they look fantastic! #Christmascakes @LoveWestLothian



## Reminder

Make sure you sign up to twitter to keep up to date throughout the year— follow @cedarbankschool



Have a great Christmas and New Year.  
We will see you all back on the 6 January.



West Lothian Council

healthyschools+  
Edinburgh and Lothians  
Stage One 2007-2010



Award 2010



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE