

Cedarbank School

Newsletter

December 2024



Dear Parents/ Carers,

I am delighted to share with you the Cedarbank December 2024 Newsletter. This publication showcases the experiences and achievements of our young people through the first term of the 2024/25 school session.

We have had an incredibly busy first term brought to a close through our winter calendar experiences. Our learners have experienced winter markets, carol singing, talent shows, cinema visits not to mention the Christmas jumper showcases! Our recent Winter Fayre and carol singing at Livingston Designer Outlet raised more than £2500 for the school which is a huge sum of money and will really help the school with the nice to haves that really make a difference to our young people. Thank you to our Parent Council who have been instrumental in securing additional funding to make many of these experiences a reality.

A new sensory room was installed recently using Pupil Equity Funding (PEF) and we look forward to this being part of our curricular resources from January onwards. Our pupil council have recently voted on using part of our remaining PEF on improving the school library and this is an area of development for the New Year as we look to improve our reading culture.

We also consulted our learners on our current lunchtimes and how they could be improved. Pupils who felt things could be improved stated they would like more lunchtime clubs and our wonderful staff team (and senior pupils) have responded with an amazing mix of clubs for different age groups, many of which will start in January if not already underway.

Hub 9 was launched in September as a space in the school for our multi-agency partners to be based and to work with our young people. This new space brings together our PTs with all visiting professionals and has been a positive addition to the school.

Thank you for your continued support and I wish you a wonderful Christmas and all the very best for 2025.

Andrew Millar
Headteacher

Confident Individuals

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At Cedarbank we strive to ensure our pupils gain the knowledge, skills and attributes needed for life in the 21st century by developing them through the four capacities of Curriculum for Excellence.

Confident Individuals have a sense of physical, mental and emotional well-being, self respect, and secure values and beliefs, while being able to: use literacy, communication and numeracy skills, use technology for learning, and learn independently and as part of a group.





Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Aug 26

2A were asked to focus on the visual elements of line and shape to create different sized leaves/trees/flowers etc. They had fun placing and hidling animals in their images, #confidentindividuals



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Sep 12

It was lovely for this pupil to see a familiar face from his last school and build on his relationship with Rob from @KidsGoneWildUK.



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Oct 31

2A enjoyed carving pumpkins in Outdoor Learning! They had a lot of creative ideas! #creativity #confidentindividuals



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Nov13
We are all missing one of our learners who has transitioned to her new school! Some of her friends had a lovely farewell celebration last week. #confidentindividuals



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool - Aug 21

S Jused a Life Skills lesson to vote for pupil council reps. Each candidate made a speech and showed that they really cared about Cedarbank and the well-being of our pupils. Well done to all three. #confidentindividuals



Cedarbank School @Cedarbank School · Aug 27

6B and 6C enjoyed a walk to Livingston South Railway Station today. We used digital map skills and signposts to navigate there, and we learned how to use the ticket machines and timetables at the station. Well done, everyone! #confidentindividuals



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Oct 28
This S3 learner was using shapes in Maths in a creative way to build 3D forms. Such beautiful colours using a lightbox. #confidentindividual



Cedarbank School @Cedarbank School · Nov 8
In RE, 2A have been learning about the Saint Columba. We talked about the story of the Saint and Nessie. Pupils had fun drawing their own Nessies! #superset/llearners #confidentiolity/lusts



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Aug 26

3A have created images of the Big Bang for their first RE topic this term.
They enjoyed creating explosive effects using a wax resist technique with paints and oil pastels. #confidentind/viduals



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Aug 29

18 Continued work on our Space theme during Explore time. We tried doing some yoga with an astronaut and we were very glad we had gravity to help us do the poses more easily! #confidentindividuals



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool - Oct 10
The S3s have completed a Skara Brae unit and enjoyed guessing (and looking at) historical artefacts found there! #confidentindividuals



○ Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool - Nov 8 NPA Photography young people have been busy this October in various outdoor and indoor photoshoots in and around West Lothian. They are experiencing first-hand the variety of job roles photoshoots requirel #skillsforwirk #photography #confidentindividuals



Cdarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Nov 8
During outdoor learning day 1B pupils used chalks to experiment with making abstract circle shapes in the style of the Russian artist Wassily Kandinsky. Afterwards in class they had fun making a plasticine couple, a plane and a monster. #Creativity #confidentindividuals.



Effective Contributors

Effective Communicators have an enterprising attitude, resilience, self relience while being able to: communicate in different ways and different settings, work in partnership and in teams, take the initiative and lead, create and develop, and solve problems.

Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Aug 15

Three of our S3s used a Life Skills lesson to give the class fish tank a good clean after the summer break. #effectivecontributors #responsiblecitizens



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Aug 28
S1A have been learning all about dental health and hygiene in IDL. We had a
go at brushing all of the stains from the 'teeth', talking about what food are
healthiest for our teeth and even making our own teeth characters! These
are brilliant. Well done S1A!



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Oct 10 ...
6A discussed healthy relationships at the start of term and sorted pictures into healthy & unhealthy. Excellent discussions and team work shown.
#effectivecontributors



© Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool - Nov 8
S3 learned about Martin Luther King. We had our own march, complete
with signs, to see what it was like. 1 learner suggested we make our photos
black and white, too, like they were then - what a great idea!
#effectivecontributors



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Dec 4 Some of our Pupil Council were invited to a presentation from the Scottish Parliament today and were learning about reserved and devolved powers in government. #effectivecontributors #confidentindividuals



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool - Aug 28

1B enjoyed creating their 3D solar system banners, selecting their materials according to colour and size, and adding some extra sparkle. We learned about the different planets and listened to music from Holst's Planets Suite while we worked. #creativity



Cedarbank School @Cedarbank School · Oct 1

Mr Ts Personal Finance class visited Mrs Steele's class today to test them on their knowledge of banking' vocabulary. The students helped write the questions and present the quiz. They did very well! #effectivecontributors transfilled in did distance.



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@CedarbankSchool

★ Cedarbank Sustainability Week ★ Our Climate & Sustainability class distributed boxes for recycling soft plastics today. A great way to kick of our sustainability week! #learningforsustainability #effectivecontributors



Cedarbank School @Cedarbank School · Nov 14

Our young sport leaders getting some training from @activeswl before they start their lunchtime sports club with BGE pupils. #effectivecontributors #confidentioudiduals



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Dec 4

Our amazing pupils enjoying the carol singing in McArthur Glen, raising money for our school. We will be back the next 3 Thursdays 1pm - 2:30pm so come along and join in if you can! #effectivecontributors



€ Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Aug 28

StB have been thinking about some of the ways we keep our bodies healthy. We have been sorting food, washing fruit and veggies for messy play, taking part in brain gym and getting our bodies moving on a local walkl



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Oct 8

The Art and Design department really enjoyed meeting parents, carers and families at our family wellbeing event. Meet our fabulous pupil leaders.



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Oct 24

The Creative Media Class were doing a Personal Skills and Personal
Qualities "conga" - they had highlighted what they thought were their own
skills and qualities - then they were asked to tick the qualities/skills of the
pupil in front of them. #effectivecontributors



Enterprise are making slime for the Winter Fayre. Here is our second test batch - some big bubbles and happy pupils! #effectivecontributors



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Nov 28
2A worked hard today to forage and create wreaths to sell at our Winter



Responsible Citizens



Responsible citizens have respect for others, and a commitment to participate responsibly in political, economic, social and cultural life, while being able to: develop knowledge and understanding of the world and Scotland's place in it, and make informed choices and decisions.

Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Sep 12

S1A worked together and had brilliant fun this morning with Rob from @KidsGoneWidIdLK. We were learning about woodland animals and their habitats. Check out the shelters we build for animals living in the woods near our school it llearningforgustainability treesonablectrizers.



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Oct 11
Pupils enjoyed using our composter to dispose of apple cores and fruit peel during our outdoor picnic. #learningforsustainability #responsiblecitizens



Cedarbank School ©CedarbankSchool · Nov 20 ... In IDL2 we are heading into the future. S2 boys decided on the sustainable power they would need to take their cars into 2050 - hydrogen fuel cells, solar panels, batteries and bio fuel. They designed their roads and teamed up to make a giant road system. #responsiblecitizens



Cedarbank School ©CedarbankSchool - Dec 6
Our young sport leaders getting their first opportunity to teach some of the younger pupils in the school. They did a great job and everyone had fun.
#effectivecontributors #studentleaders #responsiblectizens



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool • 1h
Many S1 to S3 pupils chose to watch the beautiful otter film at lunchtime.
The otter is called Molly and it is a true story. #learningforsustainability
#responsiblectitzens



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool - Sep 19
Our S6 Climate Change & Sustainability class were concerned that UK butterfly numbers are down drastically. Here's a couple we managed to spot on a woodland walk yesterday. #responsiblecitizens



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Nov 1

As part of our Biodiversity Award the S6 took a walk in the local woodland today. One pupil enjoyed sitting amongst all the fallen leaves! #responsiblecitizens



Codarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Oct 10
Our S6 Climate Change & Sustainability class have been recycling the soft plastics we collected at school, A great way to work through Sustainability Weekl #responsible citizens #effective contributors #learningforsustainability



A big Thank you to Neil for the time and effort taken to deliver some really interesting discussions around career journeys involving climate action and sustainability yesterday! #learningforsustainability #responsiblecitizens



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Dec 10 ...
Some of our S6 learners enjoyed their transition visit to @WestLoCollegel



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Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Dec 5

We continue to celebrate sustainability in Cedarbank - keep your eyes peeled on the West Lothian Inside News! #learningforsustainability #responsiblecitizens





Successful Learners



Successful Learners have enthusiasm and motivation for learning, determination to reach high standards of achievements, and openness to new thinking and ideas whole being able to: relate to others and manage themselves, pursue a healthy and active lifestyle, be self aware, live as independently as they can, and achieve success in different areas of activity.

Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Aug 20 ...
This S3 RE class are learning about the Big Bang. The pupils had fun using splats of paints to create an explosion effect. They are now adding planets to their image. #successfullearners #creativity



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Aug 26

3A are completing a CREST Bronze Award to investigate heart rate recovery time after exercise using oximeters to determine fitness.
##supposefullearners



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Sep 12

S1A asked to complete a project on Frogsl In Explore lessons we have been learning all about the life cycle of frogs. Do you like our froggy crafts? We had lots of fun making them. #successfullearners #learnervoice



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Sep 20

Cedarbank Spotlight: Photography
This NPA Photography learner would like to share with you some of the photographs she has created since beginning the course in August.

#successfullearner



Cedarbank School @Cedarbank School • Nov 8

A few of our learners in 3A have been working so hard in Art and wanted to share their work with you! #creativity #successfullearners



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Aug 22
This S6 pupil is investigating a range of art techniques and materials as part of his N2 Creative Arts Course. Today he was exploring photography using digital technology and making lots of personal choices. #successfullearner





Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool - Sep 20

Cedarbank Spotlight: Photography +

This NPA Photography learner would like to share with you some of the photographs she has created since beginning the course in August.

#successfullearner



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool - Oct 11
This Senior Art and Design student is really proud of his painting of Table
Mountain and a black girdled lizard. He is respecting his family heritage
through his choice of subject matter. Fantastic job. #successfullearner
#creativity





Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Sep 4

This young learner took inspiration for his Art and Design Senior course work all the way from South Africa as some of his family are from this region. What a fantastic black girdled lizard! We are looking forward to seeing the iconic Table Mountain next. #successfullearner



Cedarbank School @Cedarbank School · Sep 24 ...
This N2 Creative Arts pupil is learning about the technique of coiling in clay modelling. Great job in making your coil pot into a snake with texture.



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool - Nov 8

38 enjoyed using chalks to experiment with making abstract circle shapes in the style of the Russian artist Wassily Kandinsky, Pupils aimed to complete 1 row. They did great! #successfullearmers #creativity





Learning for Sustainability and Learning Outdoors



Learning for sustainability permeates throughout our curriculum and all pupils are given opportunities to consider how to make more sustainable decisions about how to live their life. Embedded within this is out outdoor learning opportunities which enable us to gain and appreciation and respect for nature and the environment.

Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Aug 28
S1A have been getting to know their new school and local area during explore lessons. We had a lovely time spotting wildlife at the local pond this



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool - Sep 10
One of our S1 pupils has built her own bird house. We have put it in the school garden and filled it with lots of lovely food for the birds



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Oct 11
Learners have enjoyed Autumnal crafts over lunch times this week.



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Nov 8
This class made vanilla waffles, then took them for a wellbeing walk!



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Nov 13

A big Thank you to Neil for the time and effort taken to deliver some really interesting discussions around career journeys involving climate action and sustainability yesterday! #learningforsustainability #responsiblecitizens



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Sep 5 ...
SIB walked to the shopping centre for Lifeskills Maths today. We are looking forward to using our local shops to help us learn during our Maths lessons! #learningforsustainability #activelearning #confidentindividuals



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Sep 10

Nature nurtures our spirits and spending time together nurtures our S6
relationships the frequency till the second state of the second state o



Cedarbank School @Cedarbank School · Sep 24

There were games, drama, film clips and banana and chocolate cake to celebrate "FairtradeUK forhight this year. Well done to 3A for a great assembly celebrating 30 years of the FairtradeUK organisation.



Cedarbank School @Cedarbank School · Oct 24 ...

Our S6 collected another batch of soft plastic from school today and took it to our local supermarket for recycling. S #responsiblecitizens #effectivecontributors #learningforsustainability



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool - Nov 18

3B have been busy wrapping (in recycled paper) books for a spin the wheel book giveaway at the Winter Fayrel We would welcome any donations of children's books for this! Thank you! #effectivecontributors

HearpingTopus varia shillity



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool - Sep 10

S6 worked off some of their lunch by going on a wellbeing walk to
Bellsquarry Wood. A few learners even tried their best to wake up the
fairlies, #wellbeing #confidentind|viduals



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool - Sep 19
SIA have been enjoying the late summer crops at Cedarbank. They have been digging for potatoes, harvesting courgettes and enjoying the pumpkin soup's story by Helen Cooper- The class made some of their own delicious carrot soup foot #successfullearners #farmtforik



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool - Oct 10

It's Sustainability & Exploring Autumn week at Cedarbank. S3 investigated changes taking place in our local woodland. We spotted a wide variety of toadstools, fruits and seeds. #learningforsustainability



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Nov 13
Our BGE had a 'Farm to Fork' Assembly where our volunteers dressed up to fullustrate some of the many jobs involved in the production of milk. We also watched a short film about a day in the life on a dairy farm. #farmtofork #learningforsustainability #confidentindividuals



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool • Dec 13
These S6 learners took on a leadership role at our Winter Fayre last week.
They helped in Home Economics and did a fantastic job!
#effectivecontributors





Learning with the Community and Celebrating Wider Achievements



Learning with our community allows us to deepen the links made within subjects, helps with our Delivering the Young Workforce agenda, and include parents/carers and partner organisations in our learning. Whether it is utilising provisions off site or bringing partners in to the school, we welcome the opportunities provided for our community and hope we broaden the understanding of the needs of our pupils to others.

We also love to celebrate the successes of our pupils and staff outside of the school day, whether that is a sporting achievement, an award, or just learning in a different context at home.

Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Aug 30
Rural skills started their lawn maintenance outcome for their estate maintenance portfolio at St Theresa's. #skillsforwork



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Sep 10 ...
We are so proud of our Taekwondo champion from 2Al Two golds and one silver medall of sold medals for patterns and high kicks, and silver for sparring. What a fantastic achievement! #widerachievement #confidentindividual



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Sep 27

Our S3 and S4 pupils had a wonderful time watching a Reconnect production of Macbeth at @HowdenPark this morning, It was a delight to see their enjoyment! They were absolute stars! @ReconnectShows



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool - Oct 11
Towards Independence have been out and about in the community, exploring Crofthead Farm and what services it offers. We also visited their café and ordered our own drinks. Thank you Kath - we enjoyed them very weight throughfeaterstriftichted



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Sep 2
One of our pupils brought in his medals from a successful weekend of competition swimming. What an achievement! #confidentindividual #twidrarshipsement



Cedarbank School @Cedarbank School · Sep 12

Rural Skills pupils have been completing their lawn maintenance training on a John Defere sit on lawn mover at St Thereas's. They are doing a wonderful job maintaining the extensive grounds. #effectivecontributors #kskillsfrounds.



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool - Sep 24
S1A had a lovely visit to @AlmondValley+C as part of Maths Week! They worked together to solve maths challenges before meeting some of the animals and, of course, playing at the park. What a team!



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Oct 11
Fashion and Textiles pupils went to @Hobbycraft to assess a variety of textiles after learning about them in the classroom. The fabric dash challenge was a hit. They also demonstrated manners and self-confidence when selection their order for fabric at the observation.



Cedarbank School @Cedarbank School · Sep 4

This talented artist has earned a commission from the Scottish Youth Film Foundation for her painting of the West Lothian skylinel #confidentindividual #creativity



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Sep 19

Art and Design learners had a cultural experience by visiting an art gallery on a busk We saw the work of artist Helen McCrorie (with the people of Crieff) and Annabel Wright's illustrations. #widerachievement #tlearning.context



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Oct 10

Our fantastic young sports ambassadors, helped support our active school

Co-Ordinator deliver a health and wellbeing session to pupils and parents

at Cedarbank last Friday. They did us all proud in their leadership roles!



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool • Nov 8
History took advantage of it being Outdoor Learning Day to take a walk to the War Memorial to start our World War I topic. We also saw the Covid memorial that is in progress, too. #OutdoorClassroomDay



Skills for Work

Skills for Work are the 'softer' employability skills which are valued highly by employers and are key to success in the world of work and, in addition, the skills and experiences gained through our work Developing the Young Workforce.









Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Nov 1 This budding young photographer was 'lying down' on the job this week $\ensuremath{\mathfrak{D}}$. All in the name of getting a perfect shot in photography! #skillsforwork







Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Dec 6 Great visit to Spence Photography in Seafield. He discussed his journey into Portrait Photography and making his business. Thanks Barrie for showing us how to work with people for headshots! @DYWWestLothian



A group from Fashion and Textiles visited Rasa Vall Alterations to learn about creative small businesses for Scottish Careers Week. Fantastic talk and demo by Rasa about her clothing alteration services in Livingston



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Sep 12 Great organisational skills by these Fashion and Textiles learners who are using their investigations and mind mapping to support creating final



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Oct 1
Our senior pupils enjoyed learning to fly drones with Dave from SDS. We learned about the different ways they can be used in the workplace. **(**



A big thank you to all of our guest speakers for sharing about their careers during our senior phase as mbly! All a part of our @





Skills for Learning

We are working on our core skills this year; Literacy, Numeracy, Creativity, Problem Solving, Digital Skills and Self regulation, which combine to deliver Skills for Life, Learning and Work

Skills for Learning are thinking skills which will encourage the deep learning learners can apply in real-life and relevant situations.











Skills for Life

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In addition to developing the four capacities, Cedarbank strives to equip out pupil with the Skills for Life, Learning and Work to enable them to take an active part in society once they move on. Skills for Life are core skills required to enable learners to make meaningful contributions to their own

Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Aug 20
In this 5B PSE class they were learning about medicine. They used their communication skills to work in pairs to discuss matching descriptions of medicines to ailments. #successfullearners #skillsforlife



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Nov 13
This St learner successfully organised and created his own enterprise this week. He planned, shopped for and cooked breakfast rolls - plenty of hungry staff as customers! #confidentindividual #skillsforwork



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool • Nov 21 ...
Lisa from @LevenseatWM came in to chat with learners across the school about the work at Levenseat and had a fun recycling activity, too!
#skillsforlife #responsiblecitizens











Reminder

Make sure you sign up to twitter (or X!) to keep up to date throughout the year—follow @cedarbankschool.

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year We look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 6th













