



# Cedarbank School

# Newsletter

**June  
2025**



## Head Teacher's News

Dear Parents/ Carers,

I am delighted to share with you the Cedarbank Summer Newsletter. This publication showcases the experiences and achievements of our young people through the second and third terms of the 2024/25 school session.

The year has been full of celebrations and successes and it is impossible to capture everything that has been achieved by our brilliant learners in this covering letter alone. However, the pages that follow outline what has been achieved between January and June this year.

The run in to the summer break is always bitter sweet as we say goodbye to a wonderful S6 group and welcome in our new S1s for their transition days. We have made a number of changes to the S6 learner experience including extending the leaving date from school to the last day of the school session, which will benefit all our current learners too.

In terms of highlights this year, we have achieved the following as a school:

- New sensory spaces ensuring we have all the right resources to continue to meet the needs of all learners - our new sensory room opened in January and has been a huge hit with S1 and S2 learners in particular, and our new Energy Hub for sensory circuits and movement opens fully in August;
- New library space designed and launched - our learners redesigned the library to be a more suitable space for our young people and was opened to much fanfare in the recent weeks. The new space is zoned for different needs and abilities including play spaces;
- Increased transition support meetings for learners in S5 and S6 to ensure that post-school planning is as supported as possible;
- Gold School of Sport Award from Sport Scotland;
- RSPB Wild Challenge Gold Award;

Improved school attendance - our overall school attendance has been higher than the previous couple of sessions, supported by our attendance action plan and support from two dedicated APSWs working with families.

It has been an absolute pleasure to be the headteacher of Cedarbank School this session and I am delighted to be at the school again next session and continuing to work with all our amazing young people.

Wishing you a wonderful summer and thank you for all the support you have given the school this year.

*Andrew Millar*  
Headteacher

# Confident Individuals

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 · Jan 8**  
1B made snowcones today during STEM class. They did a great job building the snow round their bottles to make a volcano shape. When they added vinegar to the mixture in the bottles, the bubbles rushed out, just like lava! #STEM #LearningOutside #ConfidentIndividuals #SnowFun



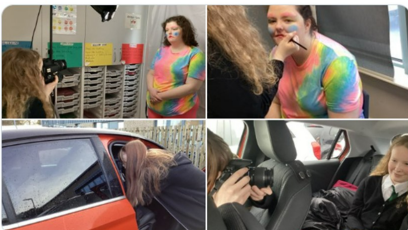
**Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Jan 16**  
S1-3 enjoyed a wonderful interactive assembly led by Ruth from Headstrong. Many experienced the kindness tunnel which fitted right in with the Cedarbank value of respect. It was lovely to see so many pupils contribute and share their thoughts. #confidentindividuals



**Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Jan 23**  
Models required! This photography learner demonstrated confidence talking to others as she approached suitable models for her photoshoots. By seeking their permissions and explaining what would be involved she proved she had excellent communication skills. #confidentindividual



**Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Feb 7**  
Photographing people can result in fun photoshoots. This week one of our models was happy to participate in dressing up and getting her face painted by the photographer, while another photoshoot took place in a car. #confidentindividuals #creativity



**Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Mar 6**  
What a fantastic photoshoot from one of our NPA Photography learners today. Gordon Ramsay's poses by the models. Armed with a selfie stick the photographer looked like he was fishing for ches! #creativity #successfullerner



**Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Jan 10**  
This learner was so diligent and motivated. He worked very hard on his Maths and showed his independence. #confidentindividuals



**Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Jan 23**  
This pupil has made a fabulous start to learning how to speak Japanese. Yoku yatta! #successfullerers #confidentindividuals



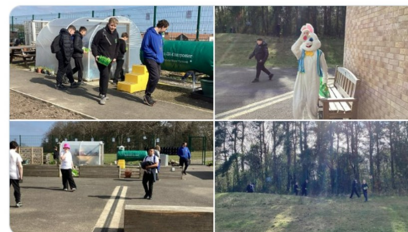
**Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Jan 28**  
Our Nat 4 Geography class visited Edinburgh to observe recent changes to the central business district. We had a great time. #successfullerers #confidentindividuals



**Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Feb 24**  
Towards Independence visited our classmate's art exhibition in the Livingstone Designer Outlet. Here are some of us pointing out our favourites! #confidentindividuals #creativity



**Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Apr 4**  
A surprise visitor came to Cedarbank yesterday and students had lots of fun in the sun searching for Easter treats! #confidentindividuals #fun



**Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Jan 10**  
2A were learning about Surrealism- especially paintings by Rene Magritte and Salvador Dali. They then were asked to fill in a portrait template where one side was normal and the other as crazy and creative as they could make it. #confidentindividuals #creativity



**Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Jan 16**  
This learner loved using the building tools to make colourful patterns! #creativity #confidentindividual



**Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Jan 31**  
S1A are thoroughly enjoying exploring our new sensory room! #confidentindividuals



**Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Jun 16**  
S2A were enjoying some time in the new & improved school library today. This learner enjoyed sharing this book with her peers! #confidentindividual







## Effective Contributors

Effective Communicators have an enterprising attitude, resilience, self reliance 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.





## 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 · Jan 8  
Our Nat 4 Geography class used Scrabble tiles to show what sparse, dense, even and uneven population distribution looks like! [#successfulearners](#)



**Cedarbank School** @CedarbankSchool · Jan 10  
3A were looking at the artwork of the Japanese artist Yayoi Kusama. They looked at images using dots/circles of colour. Pupils chose different coloured stickers to add to a sneaker template and then filled around these with colour. [#successfulearners](#) [#creativity](#)



**Cedarbank School** @CedarbankSchool · Jan 20  
Our Bakery class made good use of the patches of ice outside to help cool their creme patissiere filling for profiteroles! [#problemsolving](#) [#successfulearners](#)



**Cedarbank School** @CedarbankSchool · Feb 7  
What a great design thinker we have in S6. This young lady has been making several paper prototypes this week to find the best solution for her lighting design. We are looking forward to seeing how she develops her materials for the final piece. [#successfulearners](#) [#creativity](#)



**Cedarbank School** @CedarbankSchool · Apr 4  
2A enjoyed finishing their Banksy Canvases. Pupils had fun adding personalized touches to their image. [#successfulearners](#) [#creativity](#)



**Cedarbank School** @CedarbankSchool · Jan 9  
Pupils enjoying researching Ancient Egypt, The Titanic, World War I and Japanese Warriors [#ProblemSolving](#) [#Research](#) [#successfulearners](#)



**Cedarbank School** @CedarbankSchool · Jan 10  
S1B had their first day of Home Economics today. They learned all about kitchen safety and routines and tried out the microwave to make s'mores! [#successfulearners](#) [#skillsforlife](#)



**Cedarbank School** @CedarbankSchool · Jan 31  
The most anticipated lesson for this learner all year - to make his own professional looking stuffed crust pizza! [#successfulearners](#) [#creativity](#)



**Cedarbank School** @CedarbankSchool · Feb 20  
Fabulous work made by this learner for her NPA Costume award. She has designed and created this fantastic necklace design to be worn by musician Courtney Love in a music video. Photograph by NPA Photography pupil. [#successfulearners](#)



**Cedarbank School** @CedarbankSchool · Mar 20  
1B made fruity crumble. They worked on developing bridge and claw grip skills when chopping and used equipment to take out an apple core. We discussed fruits they have not tried before and described flavours of fruits. [#skillsforlife](#) [#successfulearners](#)



**Cedarbank School** @CedarbankSchool · Jan 10  
This 1B pupil has been creative on the promethean board during busy start this morning. [@jet2tweets](#) is his favourite airline! [#successfulearners](#) [#creativity](#)



**Cedarbank School** @CedarbankSchool · Jan 14  
Yesterday 5B learned about the dangers of gaming online and today they continued doing their fantastic posters. The poster needed to mention at least 4 dangers. [#successfulearners](#)



**Cedarbank School** @CedarbankSchool · Mar 14  
These learners used amazing skills to create delicious cakes as a part of their Home Economics lesson. [#successfulearners](#)



**Cedarbank School** @CedarbankSchool · Jan 31  
Today 2A were learning how to create Zentangle drawings of hairstyles. They chose a face out of a magazine then using the visuals provided. Pupils were asked to create their own imaginative Zentangle hair patterns. [#creativity](#) [#successfulearners](#)



**Cedarbank School** @CedarbankSchool · Jun 19  
A huge 'thank you' to all who attended our Leavers Skills Showcase. It was wonderful to hear all the skills our learners have developed in their time at Cedarbank! We are so proud of you! [#confidentindividuals](#) [#successfulearners](#) [#effectivecontributors](#)

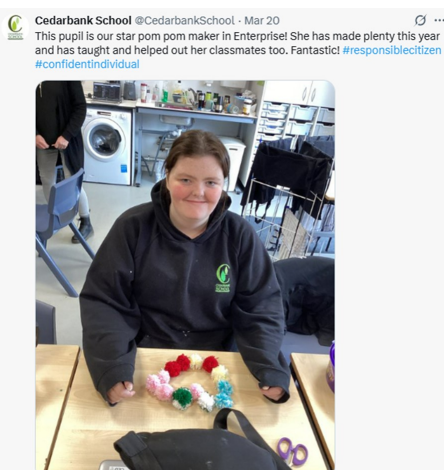






## Responsible Citizens

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 · 11h

Our Leavers enjoyed their prom on Thursday evening! A memorable night for everyone! #confidentindividuals





# 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 our outdoor learning opportunities which enable us to gain and appreciation and respect for nature and the environment.





## 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 · Feb 3  
 DYW Week 🌟  
 A few more of our pupils enjoyed meeting the Community Police from @PoliceScotland and the Fire Brigade @FireLivingston. Thanks for coming out today! #DYWWestLothian #skillsforlife #confidentindividuals



**Cedarbank School** @CedarbankSchool · Feb 5  
 Our S1 pupils and a great time playing with other WL ASN school pupils at the Bocca and curling festival last week. It was great to see everyone working so closely together. @WestLoCollege @busc @ActiveDeans



**Cedarbank School** @CedarbankSchool · Feb 18  
 All pupils had a great time with Destination Judo before the holidays. They learned some break falls and throws. The pupils loved this amazing opportunity that was made available by @destinationjudo and @activeschools. Thank you! #confidentindividuals



**Cedarbank School** @CedarbankSchool · Feb 18  
 As a part of #DYWWeek, our Bakery course had in Karen, a professional cake decorator. She shared about her business, the wonderful designs she creates and the joys and challenges of her job day to day. #successfuller learners @DYWWestLothian



**Cedarbank School** @CedarbankSchool · Mar 5  
 Last week we invited learners from @ogilvieschool1 to hold an art show! It was a lovely time for our schools to showcase their work together. #confidentindividuals



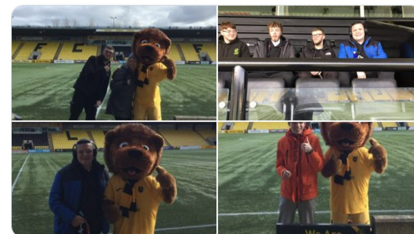
**Cedarbank School** @CedarbankSchool · Mar 6  
 A huge thanks to Jim Baxter who donated funds raised to Cedarbank from the Live Invitational Solo Drumming competition. Our school captains enjoyed meeting you! #confidentindividuals pipesdrums.com/article/mcquill...



**Cedarbank School** @CedarbankSchool · Mar 6  
 NPA Horticulture and NPA Rural Skills classes have taken part in a variety of projects to increase the biodiversity at @WestLoCollege over the last two years. Thank you to our partners at the school for providing opportunities for our pupils to gain landscaping experience!



**Cedarbank School** @CedarbankSchool · Mar 14  
 These learners had a great morning on Thursday learning more about Livingston F.C. Thanks to Mark for being a great host! #confidentindividuals



**Cedarbank School** @CedarbankSchool · Mar 24  
 One of our S3 pupils had a successful swimming tournament at the weekend. He brought in his medals to show us. Well done - we are so proud! #confidentindividuals #widerachievement



**Cedarbank School** @CedarbankSchool · Mar 25  
 S1 & 2 Camp 🌟  
 Our learners were so independent setting up their dorms - very impressive skills for life! #confidentindividuals #widerachievement #residentialschoolcamp



**Cedarbank School** @CedarbankSchool · Mar 25  
 S1 & 2 Camp 🌟  
 After the bonfire, we all went back to the dorms and set up for our movie night. First things first, we had a birthday to celebrate! What's better than a piece of cake for a movie night snack?! #confidentindividuals #widerachievement



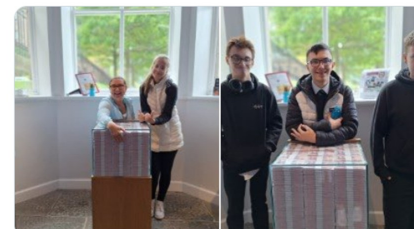
**Cedarbank School** @CedarbankSchool · Jun 9  
 S3 had a fantastic trip today at @museumonmound in Edinburgh. We investigated the beautiful designs on banknotes and minted our own coins! #confidentindividuals #widerexperiences



**Cedarbank School** @CedarbankSchool · Apr 25  
 Cedarbank pupils had a great time playing football and practicing skills with other ASN schools in the council at Broxburn United Sports Club. Thanks to @busc and @activeschools for organising. #confidentindividuals #hobbies



**Cedarbank School** @CedarbankSchool · 11h  
 The new S6 visited the money museum. Striking coins, investigation security features on bank notes, safe cracking and seeing £1,000,000 - an enjoyable day for all. #successfuller learners #confidentindividuals





## Skills for Life

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



## 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 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 · Jan 20  
Practical Cookery had lots of fun making creative designs for dessert plate decoration. #creativity #confidentindividuals #skillsforwork



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Feb 5  
Some of our S5 had mock job interviews with Mr B as part of their Employability Award. They nailed it! #DYW #skillsforwork #confidentindividuals #dywweek



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Feb 7  
Looking at the world from a different viewpoint! More fun working with people in photography. #skillsforwork #confidentindividuals #creativity



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Feb 7  
★DYW Week★  
Zookeepers, construction workers, dog walkers and more! It was wonderful to see our learners dress up as their future careers yesterday! @DYWWestLothian #confidentindividuals #workinspiration



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Apr 24  
This learner has completed his final project for CDT @JamesYoungHS. We are so proud of you! #successfulearner #confidentindividual #skillsforlife #skillsforwork



Cedarbank School @CedarbankSchool · Apr 25  
Our Steps to Work class has started a new venture - subs and salads for staff lunches. Yesterday was the first day and the reviews were all 5 stars! ★ #skillsforwork #confidentindividuals #effectivecontributors



## Reminder

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

Have a great summer holiday.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back on Wednesday 13th August.



West Lothian Council

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