



David Livingstone Memorial Primary School and Nursery Class

December
2019

SOUTH
LANARKSHIRE
COUNCIL

Our Vision *'We aim to provide an inclusive and nurturing environment where everyone can thrive and achieve.'*

Our Values *Respectful Responsible Caring Confident Honest Successful*

"I am prepared to go anywhere, provided it be forward." (Dr. David Livingstone)

Dear Parents/Carers

It's hard to believe that we are in the month of December already! As always, life at DLMPS has been extremely busy with lots going on both in and out of school as we try to give the children as broad a range of experiences as possible.

I hope that you find the information in this newsletter useful. Newsletters will normally be sent home at the beginning of each month, along with a list of dates for your diary. Please remember to contact the school if there is anything that you need clarified or want to ask.

*Linda Callender
Head Teacher*

Launch of School House System

This term has seen the launch of our new House System, something that was suggested by support staff during our last consultation on whole school improvement in August 2018. This consultation is completed every 2 years and takes the form of a SWOT analysis, with all staff, children and a sample group of parents/carers being asked to identify what they think are the Strengths of the school, the Weaknesses of the school, the Opportunities that we could extend further and the Threats or things which may hinder our ability to make changes.

Our new House System has been developed by members of our P4-7 Pupil Leadership Committee, with support from Mrs Sommerville, our Acting Depute Head Teacher and P6/7 class teacher. So far, the children have decided on the theme for our Houses (Scottish castles) and all pupils and staff have now been divided up into 4 different groups: Balmoral, Bothwell, Edinburgh and Stirling. P7 pupils have also submitted application forms for the role of House and Vice Captain and will soon be asked to deliver a speech to their respective Houses so that their peers can vote on who they think would be best in these roles.

House points are currently being awarded for children who remain on green all week in their Ready Steady Learn books and children who bring this back signed by a parent/carer, so please support your child with this. In addition, staff at all levels have been issued with Golden Tickets. These are special rewards for anyone who is seen doing something extra special. If a child is awarded a Golden Ticket, he/she will earn 3 extra points for their House; if a class is awarded a Golden Ticket, each House will be awarded an additional House point. To say that these Golden Tickets are proving to be very lucrative would be an understatement!

House points are counted every Friday, with the winning House being announced at our assembly on a Friday. These points will then be added up over the course of a term, with the winning House securing a special House treat. Although we have only been gathering House points for 2 weeks, the competition is already very fierce!



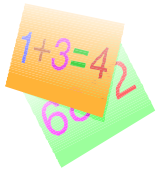


Football Success

Congratulations to our P6/7 football team who reached the final stages of the James Nisbet Shield. Unfortunately, the children did not win on this occasion, but their sportsmanship was a credit to both themselves and the school. A huge big 'thank you' to Mrs Hill, Mr Murphy, and Mr Baxter (two of our volunteer helpers) who support our footballers with their weekly training sessions.

Scots Week

The whole school has recently participated in a special Scots Week where children of all stages had the opportunity to learn about Scots language and culture through a range of different activities, including poetry and song. In addition, some classes were treated to a special visit from our former Nursery teacher, Mrs Monk, who read them a variety of stories in Scots. The whole week then culminated in a special Scots Assembly on Friday, 29th November where each class had the chance to showcase their learning to others.



Numeracy Open Day

Thank you to everyone who attended our Numeracy Open Day on Wednesday, 27th November. The feedback that we received from this event was extremely positive with 99% of parents/carers saying that they found it beneficial, especially in terms of giving them ideas on what they can do to support their children's learning at home.

Nursery Stay, Play and Learn Day

Thank you to all our Nursery parents/carers and other family members who attended this session's inaugural Stay, Play and Learn session on Wednesday, 27th November. This is something that we now how to organise every month so that the children can share their learning in a relaxed way. We are also hoping to vary the days of the sessions to suit those of you who may be working, so please look out for these dates on the Nursery noticeboard.

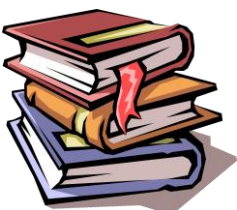


Nursery Danceathon

A sincere thank you to the families of all our Nursery children who managed to raise a whopping £930.50 during a recent Danceathon, with more money still coming in. This money will now be used to support the cost of Christmas events and activities in the Nursery, the first of which will be a visit to Low Parks Museum in Hamilton to see Santa on Wednesday, 4th December.

Children in Need

Congratulations to our Charities Committee and Mrs Young who organised a very successful fundraiser in aid of Children in Need on Friday, 15th November, raising an amazing £273.17 for this very worthwhile cause. Thank you to everyone who contributed.



Book Swap and Reading Challenges

Well done to our P5 Library Committee and Miss Smith who organised a very successful Book Swap on Friday, 22nd November. This proved to be very popular with the children and it was wonderful to see so many of them choosing to read their new books in the playground following the event. We are hoping to organise another Book Swap in March, so please look out for details about this in your child's schoolbag nearer the time.

By way of promoting increased reading for enjoyment, this same group of children have also been responsible for organising different reading challenges. We hope that you are having lots of fun doing these as a family.



Christmas Hampers


Thank you to everyone who has already contributed towards our class Christmas hampers. Raffle tickets for these amazing prizes are currently being sold in the school at the cost of £1 each. They will also be sold at our Christmas Fayre on **Thursday, 5th December**. The Parent Council are continuing to look for donations for their tombola and bottle stalls, so please send in anything you can. Thank you.

School Nativity

Our Nursery and P1 children, will be performing a special Nativity on **Wednesday, 11th December** starting at 9.45am and on **Thursday, 12th December** starting at 1.45pm. A letter has already been sent home to the families of all the children involved explaining how you are able to order tickets for these performances.



Christmas Post

 Our school Christmas Post will start on **Monday, 9th December**. This allows children to post their Christmas cards to pupils and staff using the special postbox that is located in the Open Area. This year, mail will be sorted by children in our P1 classes supported by their P7 Buddies, so please make sure that names and classes are written clearly on all envelopes. We would also appreciate it if no Christmas cards are brought into school before this date. Thank you.

Christmas Service

Our annual Christmas Service will take place in the school on **Thursday, 19th December starting at 9.30am**. A warm welcome is extended to all our families and friends who are able to attend.



Christmas Parties

Our class Christmas parties have been arranged for the following dates:



P6 & P7	Monday, 16th December	1.30pm – 3.00pm
P4 & P5*	Tuesday, 17th December	1.30pm – 3.00pm
P2, P2/3 & P3	Wednesday, 18th December	1.30pm – 3.00pm
Nursery & P1	Thursday, 19th December	1.30pm – 3.00pm

*This will include the P5 children in the P5/6 class

Should you wish your child to go home and get changed for their party, he/she may be collected from the school office at 12.00pm. No child will be able to leave the school early unless they are accompanied by an adult.

Christmas Lunch

Our school Christmas lunch will take place on **Wednesday, 11th December**. A flyer has already been sent home informing you of the choice of menu that will be available on this day. Children are required to order in advance and all orders should be returned to the school **no later than Wednesday, 5th December**. If you require another order form to be sent home, please contact staff in the school office.



Please note that there will be no cold snacks on offer on this day. Children who do not wish to have a hot school lunch can either bring in their own packed lunch or go home for something to eat.

School Pantomime

Thank you to our Parent Council who funded the cost of a whole school pantomime performed by the Hopscotch Theatre Group. This year's performance is 'Mother McGoose' and will take place on **Tuesday, 3rd December** – oh yes it will!



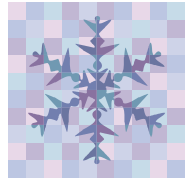
Breakfast Club

Our Breakfast Club is proving popular with an increasing number of families. This is a free resource for all children. Please remember that doors open at 8.15am and the last entrance is at 8.30am so that we can ensure that there is enough time for the children to enjoy their breakfast before going out into the playground at 8.45am. Please also remember that if your child does not attend the Breakfast Club and arrives in school before 8.45am, then you are doing so at your own risk as we do not have an adult presence in the playground before this time.



Inclement Weather

Parents/carers are reminded that in the unlikely event that the school needs to remain closed because of adverse weather conditions, this information will be reported on South Lanarkshire Council's website (www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk) and, if possible, on Twitter and on the local radio stations. It is also vitally important that you keep us informed of any changes to your contact details in case we need to telephone you in an emergency.



As a school, we also have an Adverse Weather Plan in place. This means that should we experience adverse weather conditions, the janitor will prioritise the clearing of snow and ice in a pathway leading from the main gates at the front of the school to the main entrance. There will also be one route cleared from the car park to the main entrance, but both parents and staff enter the car park at their own risk.



Ready Steady Learn Books

As you know, every child has now been issued with a new Ready Steady Learn book for this term. This book shall be sent home at least once per week and you are asked to sign to say that you have seen it. Comments from parents/carers are also welcome. So that we are able to keep you informed about your child's learning and behaviour in school, we would be grateful if you could ensure that your child's Ready Steady Learn book is returned to the school the day after it has been sent home. Thank you.

Pupil Sickness

Please remember that if your child has suffered from sickness or diarrhoea, he/she should stay at home for at least 48 hours (2 days) after their symptoms stop to prevent the infection being passed on to anyone else. Your support with this is greatly appreciated.



Mobile Phones

We strongly discourage children from bringing their mobile phones to school as we cannot be held responsible if they are damaged or stolen. If your child does bring his/her mobile phone to school, it must be switched off at all times. Any messages that you need to get to your child during the school day should be delivered via staff in our school office.

Attendance At School

Please remember that it is the parent/carer's responsibility to inform us if your child is going to be absent from school. Should we be unable to get in touch with yourself or one of your child's emergency contacts, we may need to ask the Police to visit your home to ensure that your child is safe.



Christmas Holiday

Thank you to all our families for your continued support throughout the year. It really is very much appreciated by everyone in the school. Please remember that the school will close for Christmas on **Friday, 20th December at 2.30pm** and will re-open again on **Monday, 6th January at 8.55am**. We hope that everyone has a relaxing and peaceful holiday.



Dates for Your Diary

Date	Event and Children/Parents Involved
Monday, 2 nd December	Credit Union collection point
Monday, 2 nd December	P4-7 Homework Club (12.45pm – 1.15pm)
Monday, 2 nd December	P6/7 Football Club(3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Monday, 2 nd December	Oral Health Practitioner visiting Nursery
Tuesday, 3 rd December	Whole school panto
Tuesday, 3 rd December	P2 Multi-Sports Club (12.45pm – 1.15pm)
Tuesday, 3 rd December	P5 Multi-Sports Club (3.00m – 4.00pm)
Wednesday, 4 th December	Nursery visiting Santa at Low Parks Museum (am and pm)
Wednesday, 4 th December	Show Racism the Red Card workshop for P5/6
Thursday, 5 th December	Scottish Parliament outreach workshop for P7
Thursday, 5 th December	Christmas Fayre (6.30pm – 8.30pm) – All welcome
Friday, 6 th December	P6 Euroquiz Club (12.45pm – 1.15pm)
Monday, 9 th December	Credit Union collection point
Monday, 9 th December	P5 attending Bubblegum and Fluff at Livingstone Memorial Church
Monday, 9 th December	P4-7 Homework Club (12.45pm – 1.15pm)
Tuesday, 10 th December	Flu immunisation – All children
Tuesday, 10 th December	Pre-school orthopic screening
Tuesday, 10 th December	P2 Multi-Sports Club (12.45pm – 1.15pm) – final week
Tuesday, 10 th December	P5 Multi-Sports Club (3.00m – 4.00pm)
Wednesday, 11 th December	Pre-School Nursery & P1 Nativity (9.45am start)
Wednesday, 11 th December	Christmas lunch
Wednesday, 11 th December	Nursery ‘Stay, Play and Learn’ session (1.00pm)
Wednesday, 11 th December	House treat for winning House (pm)
Thursday, 12 th December	Nursery ‘Stay, Play and Learn’ session (8.45am)
Thursday, 12 th December	Pre-School Nursery & P1 Nativity (1.45pm start)
Thursday, 12 th December	P3 visiting Blantyre Library re Code Bots (details to follow)
Friday, 13 th December	P6 Euroquiz Club (12.45pm – 1.15pm)
Monday, 16 th December	P6 and P7 Christmas Party (1.30pm – 3.00pm)
Tuesday, 17 th December	P6/7 visit to Holyroodhouse
Tuesday, 17 th December	P5 Youth Music Initiative Parent/Carer Showcase (11.30am)
Tuesday, 17 th December	P4 and P5 Christmas Party (1.30pm – 3.00pm)
Wednesday, 18 th December	P2, P2/3 and P3 Christmas Party (1.30pm – 3.00pm)

Wednesday, 18 th December	P5/6 visiting Victoria Park Nursing Home
Thursday, 19 th December	Christmas Service in school (9.30am start) – All welcome
Thursday, 19 th December	Nursery Christmas Parties (am and pm)
Thursday, 19 th December	P1 Christmas Party (1.30pm – 3.00pm)
Friday, 20th December	School closes at 2.30pm
Monday, 6th January	School re-opens at 8.55am
Thursday, 9 th January	Parent Council meeting (6.30pm start) – All welcome
Friday, 10 th January	Rev Anderson attending assembly
Monday, 13 th January	P1 Enrolment Week – details to follow
Monday, 13 th January	Credit Union collection point
Monday, 13 th January	P6/7 Football Club (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Wednesday, 15 th January	P7 Welcome to Calderside Academy evening (details to follow)
Thursday, 16 th January	Sports Hall Athletics - selected P6/7 children



Useful Apps



Sumdog *

Primary School App

RM Easimaths *

Top Marks

Doorway Online

Teach Your Monster To Read

* Please contact your child's class teacher if they cannot remember their log-in details.