



# David Livingstone Memorial Primary School and Nursery Class

January 2020  
Tel: 01698 823680



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

Happy New Year to all our families! I trust that you all had a lovely holiday and had the chance to relax over the festive period. Thank you to everyone who supported us with our special Christmas events before the holidays, including our annual Christmas Fayre, our Nativity performances and our Christmas Service. Our children also had great fun at their class Christmas parties, with our Nursery and P1 pupils even having a visit from a very special person!

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*

## **Fundraising Success**

Congratulations to our fantastic Parent Council who managed to raise over £3000 from the Christmas Fayre that they organised on 5<sup>th</sup> December. The exact amount shall be published shortly, but I am sure that you will all agree that this is a phenomenal amount of money!



Well done, too, to the children involved in our Charities Committee who, under the guidance of Mrs Young (one of our teachers), organised a Christmas Jumper Day in aid of Clyde 1's Cash for Kids Appeal. In addition, they also arranged for the collection at our Christmas Service to be donated to this very worthwhile cause. As a result, we managed to donate £340, so thank you to everyone who contributed.



## **P1 Enrolment**

If you have a child who is due to start school in August 2020, enrolment will take place in the school during week beginning 13<sup>th</sup> January at the following times:

<b>Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>9.30am – 12.00pm and 1.30pm – 2.45 pm</b>
<b>Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>9.15am – 10.30am</b>
<b>Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>1.30pm – 2.45 pm</b>
<b>Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>9.15am – 12.00pm</b>

Parents/carers are reminded that they need to bring with them their child's full birth certificate, along with 2 proofs of residency, such as a utility bill or a bank statement, which are dated within the last 6 months. Unfortunately, mobile phone bills or catalogue bills are no longer acceptable.

## **Nursery Admissions**

There has been a change to Nursery admissions across all South Lanarkshire establishments. Please note that the closing date for August 2020 entries is now **28<sup>th</sup> February 2020**. (This is earlier than in previous years). Parents/carers will also be advised of outcomes by the end of May 2020, which should make it easier for families to organise any necessary childcare arrangements.

## **School House System and House Reward**

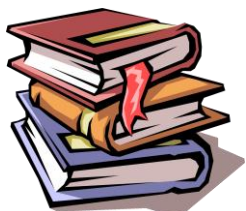
As explained in our last school newsletter, our new House System has been developed by members of our P4-7 Pupil Leadership Committee, with support from Mrs Sommerville, our Acting Depute Head Teacher and P6/7 class teacher. The children decided on the theme for our Houses (Scottish castles) and all pupils and staff have now been divided up into 4 different groups: Balmoral, Bothwell, Edinburgh and Stirling. P7 pupils also submitted application forms for the role of House and Vice Captain and these important roles have now been allocated. Congratulations to all our successful candidates.



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. They are also awarded to anyone who completes our monthly reading challenge (see below). 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 that afternoon. These points are then be added up over the course of a term, with the winning House securing a special House treat, chosen by the children themselves. Last term's winners were Stirling who all enjoyed a special movie day in the school hall, with snacks provided. Great job!

## **Monthly Reading Challenges**



Well done to our P5 Library Committee and Miss Smith (one of our P5/6 teachers) who organised another successful monthly reading challenge in December, with many children gaining valuable extra House points for participating. The purpose of these challenges is to promote increased reading for enjoyment since research has shown that if children read more, their own literacy skills tend to improve. We hope that you are having lots of fun doing these challenges as a family.

## **Nursery Stay, Play and Learn Sessions**

Thank you to all our Nursery parents/carers and other family members who attended our second set of Stay, Play and Learn sessions on Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> December and Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> December. This is something that we will be organising 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. The next sessions will be on **Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> January**.



## **Let's Have A Blether**



This year we have launched weekly 'Let's Have A Blether' sessions across the school. Once a week, members of the Senior Management Team meet with a child from each class to discuss their learning, including what they see as their strengths, as well as what they think they need to improve. A record of this conversation is then stapled into the child's Ready, Steady Learn book. Please take the time to read what has been written, then record your own comment underneath. Thank you.

## **Children Arriving Late At School**

Last term there were a number of children who were repeatedly late for school. This is having an adverse impact on children's learning as they are missing out on vital teaching at the start of a day. It also sometimes upsets our lunch orders since these are collected online in class before being sent to the school office no later than 9.15am. Please support us by ensuring that your child arrives on time.



## **Car Parks**

In the interests of pupil safety, parents/carers are asked not to drop off their children in the car park at the back of the school as this intended for staff only, including those who work in the Victoria Falls Support Base at the rear of the building. Please use the specially designed drop-off zone at the front of the school instead. Thank you.

### **School Nativity**

Congratulations to all our Nursery and P1 children who delivered an outstanding Nativity on Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> December and Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> December. Each and every one of them were stars, even more so because of the unprecedented high level of absence that we had in the school on these days.

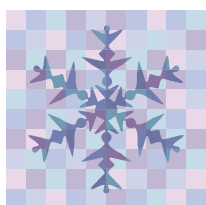


### **P5 Youth Music Initiative**

Congratulations to all of our P5 children who delivered a wonderful showcase of their learning as part of this year's Youth Music Initiative on Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> December. During this event, the children performed a number of different tunes on the glockenspiel. What a talented group of children they are!

### **P2 and P3 Read Write and Count Curriculum Event**

We are in the process of organising a curriculum event to introduce parents/carers to the Read, Write and Count bags that are issued to every P2 and P3 child each year. The purpose of this is to explain what resources are provided in the bags, as well as provide you with simple ideas that you can use to support your child at home. This event will be held on the afternoon **Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> January** and more details will be sent home shortly.



### **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](http://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk)) and, if possible, 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.

### **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.



### **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.

### **Chewing Gum**

Unfortunately, a few children have been found bringing chewing gum in to school. Please remember that chewing gum is not permitted anywhere in our school. This includes our classrooms, as well as our playground since not only is it a choke hazard, but it can cause a terrible mess to school property and children's clothing. Your support in ensuring that your child adheres to this rule would be greatly appreciated.



### **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.

## Education Privacy Notice

South Lanarkshire Council's Education Privacy Notice has now been updated to include the sharing of information for NHS programmes. This includes, for example, Childsmile, our toothbrushing programme and the recent flu immunisation programme. A copy of this new Privacy Notice will be issued to all new parents/carers as part of our Infant Enrolment Week. Revised copies are available to all existing families on our school website. Paper copies will also be available from staff in our school office should you request it.



## Administering Medicine

Should your child require to take any medication in school, it is essential that you complete an 'Administration of Medicine' form. A copy of this form is available from the school office. Only medication provided with written parental/carer consent will be able to be administered. It is the responsibility of parents/carers to ensure that medication is within its use by date.

## Indoor Shoes

We have noticed that a few children still do not have a pair of indoor shoes. In order that we can keep the carpeted areas of our school clean, it is important that all children remove their outdoor shoes when they enter the building. Please let us know if there is anything that we can do to support you with this.

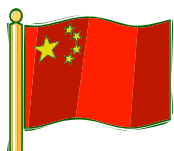


## Absence

Please remember that it is a parent/carer's responsibility to let us know if their child is going to be absent from school. This can be done by either sending in a letter in advance of a planned absence, or by telephoning the school office. We care about all of our children and so it is important that we know that they are safe if they do not report to school.

## 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.



## Mandarin Lessons

Over the next 5 weeks, children in our P6/7 class will have the opportunity to learn Mandarin as part of the Scottish Government's Languages 1 + 2 initiative. These lessons will be delivered by a native Mandarin speaker, which makes them even more exciting.

## Water In Class

As always, please remember that it is only plain water that children are allowed to drink in class and children are able to fill up their water bottles during the day. Flavoured water, sparkling water and diluting juice are not allowed in our classrooms as they leave a sticky mess if spilled.



## February Holiday

Please remember that the school will be closed for the mid-term holiday on **Monday, 10<sup>th</sup>, February and Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> February. Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> February and Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> February** are in-service days and children should not attend on these days either.

## 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.



## Dates for Your Diary

Date	Event and Children/Parents Involved
Thursday, 9 <sup>th</sup> January	Parent Council meeting (6.30pm start) – All welcome
Friday, 10 <sup>th</sup> January	JRSO Bright Colour Day – details to follow
Friday, 10 <sup>th</sup> January	Rev Anderson attending assembly
Monday, 13 <sup>th</sup> January	P1 enrolment (9.30am – 12.00pm and 1.30pm – 2.45 pm)
Monday, 13 <sup>th</sup> January	P6/7 Football Club (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Tuesday, 14 <sup>th</sup> January	P1 enrolment (9.15am – 10.30am)
Wednesday, 15 <sup>th</sup> January	P1 enrolment (1.30pm – 2.45 pm)
Wednesday, 15 <sup>th</sup> January	P6/7 Netball Club (12.45pm – 1.15pm)
Wednesday, 15 <sup>th</sup> January	P7 Welcome to Calderside Academy Evening – details to follow
Thursday, 16 <sup>th</sup> January	Sports Hall Athletics – selected children
Friday, 17 <sup>th</sup> January	P1 enrolment (9.15am – 12.00pm)
Monday, 20 <sup>th</sup> January	Credit Union collection point restarts
Monday, 20 <sup>th</sup> January	P6/7 Football Club (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Wednesday, 22 <sup>rd</sup> January	P6/7 Netball Club (12.45pm – 1.15pm)
Thursday, 23 <sup>rd</sup> January	P2 & P3 Read, Write and Count Curriculum Workshop – details to follow
Friday, 24 <sup>th</sup> January	Nursery Stay, Play and Learn sessions (am and pm)
Monday, 27 <sup>th</sup> January	Credit Union collection point
Monday, 27 <sup>th</sup> January	P2 Assembly (11.00am start) – All welcome
Monday, 27 <sup>th</sup> January	P6/7 Football Club (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Tuesday, 28 <sup>th</sup> January	P6/7 visiting Sky Academy – details to follow
Wednesday, 29 <sup>th</sup> January	P6/7 Netball Club (12.45pm – 1.15pm)
Monday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> February	Credit Union collection point
Monday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> February	P6/7 Football Club (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Wednesday, 5 <sup>th</sup> February	Fun 5Z Netball – selected P6/7 children
<b>Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>In-Service Day – School closed to children</b>
<b>Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Holiday – School closed to children and staff</b>
<b>Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Holiday – School closed to children and staff</b>
<b>Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>In-Service Day – School closed to children</b>
Thursday, 13 <sup>th</sup> February	Parent Council meeting (6.30pm start) – All welcome

