



# David Livingstone Memorial Primary School and Nursery Class

April/May 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)***

To all of our children and families,

I hope that you are all safe and well and that you enjoyed the Spring Break. The weather was amazing! All of the staff and myself are missing you all so much. Our daily lives are very unsettled at present, but I hope that you are managing to adjust to the 'new normal'.

Our teachers are currently working very hard to provide weekly home learning activities and I hope that you are finding these useful. These activities contain a mixture of Literacy, Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing tasks, as well as some interdisciplinary learning linked to class topics and/or special focus weeks in the school. All activities are uploaded onto the school website under the 'Home Learning' tab, as well as posted on our school app every Monday morning. Starting on **Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> May**, we will also be introducing Google Classroom for all stages apart from our Nursery, having successfully piloted this with our P7 class for the past fortnight. This can be accessed via a code that we have published on our school app. Alternatively, parents/carers can contact their child's class teacher via email to get this code. Please note that the code is different for each class. Google Classroom allows for communication between the child and his/her teacher, as well as the opportunity to ask any questions that he/she might have regarding their home learning activities. A helpsheet explaining how to access Google Classroom has also been added to our school website, as well as added as a document on our school app.

Participation in home learning helps us to know that our families are safe and well. Whilst we would encourage the children to complete the activities, our priority at the moment is wellbeing and maintaining strong and positive relationships with our children and families, so please do only what is manageable. Please also remember that there is no expectation that everyone does everything. I am sure that many of our children will also be learning valuable life skills as they help out with odd jobs at home, too.

Teachers email addresses are included in each home learning pack. There is no expectation to post or provide evidence of completed tasks. Nevertheless, staff would love to hear from the children, even if it is just to say hello! I know that some of you have already been posting pictures and videos on Twitter, so thank you for this. What has impressed me most is that everyone seems so happy and relaxed, which is the most important thing during this time. Google Classroom will also allow children to send examples of their learning to their own class teacher and staff will respond to this at some point during the school day (9.00am – 3.00pm). Nursery parents/carers should continue to make use of their Learning Journals to communicate with staff about their children's successes. Anything that is posted will receive a response.

As a school, staff have also been working on pupil reports. These will be issued once school re-opens, although we do not yet know when this will be. A number of staff have also been volunteering in one of the hubs that have been established in South Lanarkshire to provide emergency childcare for the children of key workers. We thank those involved for all their efforts in supporting this crucial resource.

South Lanarkshire Council aim to ensure that no pupil is disadvantaged, especially during the Covid-19 school closure. They are hoping to ensure all learners have everything they need for their wellbeing and to continue learning at home. As a result, they are offering families a range of supports, which will be delivered directly to homes, to support them at this difficult time:

- Sanitary products
- IT device

- Internet access
- Physical resources, e.g. pens, pencils, paper, ruler, chalk, paint, scissors, glue, etc.

If anyone needs support with any of the above, please email the school office at [office@davidlivingstone-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk](mailto:office@davidlivingstone-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk) to let us know what kind of help and support you need and we will try to get this to you.



### Transition

As a school, we are beginning to think about how we manage transitions whilst the school is closed. This includes our Nursery children moving into P1, children moving from stage to stage, as well as our P7s moving on to secondary school. We hope to support the children as best we can, taking their individual needs into account. Further details on this will be forwarded to you as soon as they are ready.

### Twitter

The school has a Twitter account and we use it to post information and photos of children from the school. The Twitter address is @dlivvies. Please note that this is a one-way communication tool and we will not respond to any comments. Our account is also protected so only people who are accepted as followers will be able to see the tweets. As a result, only followers who can be recognised as having a connection with the school will be accepted.



### Primary School App

Remember that we have our own app and we would like to thank our Parent Council for funding this on behalf of the school. To access this app, all you need to do is download the free app called 'Primary School App'. By doing so we will be able to notify you about school events, news and important diary dates. If you have any difficulties downloading this app, please email the school office at [office@davidlivingstone-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk](mailto:office@davidlivingstone-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk) and we will do our best to help.

### Holiday Weekends

The school will be closed on **Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> May** for VE Day. Please also remember that **Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> May** is an in-service day for staff. This means that next week's home learning activities will be greatly reduced. School is then closed again on **Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> May** and **Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> May** for a further 2 holidays. Please use these extra days to do some fun things as a family, whilst still keeping everyone safe.



### Financial Support for Families

South Lanarkshire Council are keen to provide as much support as possible for all our families. Please see the information below on Money Matters should this be of support to you:

*We offer **free, confidential and impartial advice** - we can help check your benefit entitlement, assist with the claims process, challenge decisions and represent you at Social Security appeal tribunals. For debt issues we look at your financial circumstances, contact creditors, discuss options and give budgeting advice. **Contact number: 0303 123 1008.***

*Our Telephone Advice Line offers a similar service specifically aimed at pregnant women and families with young children. **Contact number: 01698 453154.***

As always, we will continue to post updates and information regularly on Twitter, our school app and on our school website. In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns in relation to your own family's health & wellbeing, if you need any help accessing community supports, or if you would like to seek any form of advice, please contact me at [gw14dlmpsht@glow.sch.uk](mailto:gw14dlmpsht@glow.sch.uk)

Thank you for your continued support. Take care and stay safe! Hopefully it will not be too long before we are back together again!

**Mrs Callender**  
Head Teacher