



David Livingstone Memorial Primary School and Nursery Class

February 2021
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

Thank you to all our families for everything that you are doing to support the children with online learning during these unsettled times. The quality and quantity of work that we have seen posted up on Google Classroom has been absolutely outstanding! We understand that remote learning is not easy, especially if you are trying to work from home, too, or if you have more than one child/other caring responsibilities at home. Please remember that you and your child should only do what you can manage given your individual family circumstances. If you cannot do everything, it's probably best to prioritise the Literacy and Numeracy tasks if you can. Remember, too, that children need to have regular breaks and the opportunity to play during the day, too. There is no expectation that any of our children should be sitting at a screen or even at a table for lengthy periods each day. All of our challenge tasks are optional. The most important thing is that we look after our own and others' wellbeing, so try not to become anxious if there is something that you cannot do.

Please also remember that the school is still open and here to support you in whatever way we can. If there is anything personal that you would like to discuss relating to your family, please either phone the school or send me an email at the following address and I will do my best to help:
gw14dlmpsht@glow.sch.uk

*Linda Callender
Head Teacher*

P1- P7 Online Learning

I am delighted to say that we now have 99.7% of our P1-P7 children logged on to Google Classroom. During week beginning 18th January, 90% of children had uploaded examples of their learning, too. We are in the process of contacting the parents/carers of children who have not yet uploaded anything to see if there is anything that we can do to help with this.

If you have any problems accessing Google Classroom from home, please email Miss Lattimer (Acting Deputy Head Teacher) and she will do her best to help (gw07lattimerjennifer@glow.sch.uk). A helpsheet explaining how to access Google Classroom has also been added to our school website. In addition, we still have a few devices that we are able to loan out to families to support them with learning at home. Please either phone or email Miss Lattimer if this something that you require.



Thank you, too, to all our parents/carers who responded to the Google form that we issued on 22nd January. We will work our way through the suggestions for improvement that were made and, hopefully, make our home learning experience as positive as we can for everyone. In the meantime, we are already actioning the following:

You said	We did ...
Put the work on the night before so we can organise it better.	As of week beginning 1 st February, all work to be done the next day will be scheduled to be posted up at 9pm the previous day.
Less print outs	Staff are reviewing what they are posting up each day so that you do not need to print anything at home. Remember that children can just record their answers and upload these, they do not need to write everything out.
Make it clear that it is not compulsory to complete all tasks.	In our communication with parents/carers, we have reiterated that whilst the Scottish Government is expecting that children that engage in remote/online learning in the same way that they would normally be expected to attend school every day, it is important to remember that you should only do what is manageable given your family circumstances. All of our challenge tasks are completely optional and should only be done if you have the time and want to do them.

Nursery Learning Journals

During lockdown, our Early Years staff will post up learning activities on the children's online Learning Journals and we will continue to use this resource as a way of communicating information with you. Please also use your child's Learning Journal to share any achievements or successes throughout the day. Like the rest of the school, staff will comment on anything that is posted up.



P1 Enrolment

Our P1 enrolment for August 2021 took place during week beginning 18th January. However, we are aware that parents/carers are no longer receiving letters from the local authority advising them of the dates for enrolment. If you know of anyone who has still not enrolled their child for school, please could you ask them to complete an online enrolment form as soon as possible as this could affect our class configurations for next session? These forms are available on South Lanarkshire Council's website (www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk). Your support with this is greatly appreciated.



Nursery Admissions

There has been a change to Nursery admissions across all South Lanarkshire establishments. Please note that the closing date for August 2021 entries is now **28th February 2021**. (This is earlier than in previous years). Parents/carers will also be advised of outcomes just after the Spring Break, which should make it easier for families to organise any necessary childcare arrangements.



Monthly Reading Challenges

Well done to our P6 class and Miss Smith who organised another successful monthly reading challenge in January, with many children making their own reading den, then posting up a picture of this on their Google Classroom. 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. This month's reading challenge will be posted up shortly, so please look out for this as part of our online learning.



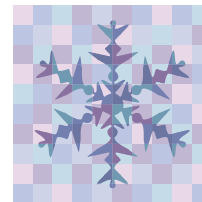
Pupil Sickness

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. This includes children who are currently attending our hub. Your support with this is greatly appreciated.



Inclement Weather

Parents/carers of children who are still attending school during lockdown 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), on Twitter, our school app 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.

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.***



Scottish Child Payment

Scottish Child Payment is a new benefit which will start on Monday, 15th February 2021. This payment is for families on certain benefits or tax credits. Eligible families will get £40 every 4 weeks for each child under the age of 6 years. To find out more about this payment and other benefits or grants to which you may be entitled, please access www.mygov.scot/benefits or call 0800 182 2222.

Wider Achievements

Although our weekly assemblies have now moved online, we are still keen to celebrate children's achievements out of school. Should your child achieve something in an activity or club out of school, please encourage them to let us know via their Google Classroom or by sending an email to their class teacher. Thank you.



Parent Club

Parent Club is a digital information resource, support hub and online community from the Scottish Government, offering practical advice and support for families across Scotland. The site includes tips and suggestions on a wide range of subjects, including helping parents/carers to keep calm, and coping with distressed behaviour.

To help families manage the challenges, especially during Covid, Parent Club have launched a Positive Parenting campaign. Please visit the following link to find out more:

www.parentclub.scot/topics/coronavirus/coping-with-parenting





Primary School App

We have our own app in order to make communication with parents/carers more effective and we would like to thank our Parent Council for agreeing to fund this on behalf of the school. To access this app, all you need to do is download the free app called 'School App for Parents'. 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 contact the school and we will do our best to help.

Twitter

The school has a Twitter account and we use it to post information and photos from events within 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.



Sanitary Products

A wide range of sanitary products are available for our girls should any of them require this during lockdown. Please simply contact the school office and we will make these available for collection.

Stationery and Other Resources

If your child requires any resources to support them with their online learning (e.g. jotters, pencils, etc), please contact the school office and staff will advise you on when these can be collected. Thank you.



February Holiday

Please remember that the school will be closed for the mid-term holiday on **Monday, 8th, February and Tuesday, 9th February. Wednesday, 10th February** is in-service day and so no online learning will be posted on this day either. Details regarding emergency childcare arrangements on these days have already been put on our school app and on South Lanarkshire Council's Twitter account.

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.

