



David Livingstone Memorial Primary School and Nursery Class

January 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

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 despite the restrictions that are in place. Let's hope that good times are around the corner, even if we do have to wait a little bit longer than we had hoped. In the meantime, I hope that you are all keeping safe and well.

Please remember that the school is here to support you during these challenging times. 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

As of Monday, 11th January, we will be moving to online learning for all classes. This will be done via Google Classroom and I am delighted to say that we now have about 95% of our P1-P7 children logged on.

Next week, a pack containing different learning activities will be posted on Google Classroom for each class. This will contain a mixture of Literacy, Numeracy and interdisciplinary learning tasks for the children. If, when you look at this pack, your child is unsure about which group they are in, please either post a message on Google Classroom, or email the school office (gw14dlmpsoffice@glow.sch.uk). Once a week, one of our teachers will also post up a Health and Wellbeing activity, and an RME (Religious and Moral Education) activity for your child to do.

Staff will be on Google Classroom from 9.00am till 3.00pm each day. Like we do in school, they will complete an emotional check-in with the children first thing in the morning and they will also post up comments throughout the day. Once your child has finished a piece of work, please either upload this as a document onto Google Classroom, or take a photograph of it and upload this instead. Teachers will then give the children feedback on anything that they have posted. We will be monitoring pupil participation and engagement, so please encourage your child to post up anything that they have completed. If your child posts up anything outwith school hours, this will receive a response the following day.

If you have any problems accessing Google Classroom from home, please email Miss Lattimer (Acting Depute 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.



Google Classroom

Starting on week beginning 18th January, teachers will begin posting up daily tasks for the children to do, rather than a pack for the week. This is in response to feedback that we received after the previous lockdown and will be evaluated after we have trialled this for a number of weeks.

As you know, some teachers will be taking responsibility for the limited number of children that we have in school each day. These children will complete the work that has been posted on Google Classroom whilst they are in class. Teachers who are working in school will not post anything on Google Classroom during this time. However, another teacher will take responsibility for online learning at home and so your child will still be able to engage with a member of staff throughout the day, as well as ask any questions that they might have.



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.

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.



P1 Enrolment

Given the current restrictions that are in place, we are still awaiting guidance from the local authority on how they plan to complete P1 enrolments this session. As soon as we have this information, we will share it with you.

Monthly Reading Challenges

Following the success of last session, this month we will be relaunching our popular monthly reading challenges. 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 and their use of vocabulary tend to improve.



These challenges will be posted on Google Classroom and we hope that you have lots of fun doing these as a family. If you can, please post up a photograph of your child completing this challenge and we will collate these as part of a slideshow for everyone to see. Thank you to Miss Smith, our P6 teacher and joint Literacy Co-ordinator, for taking responsibility for this.

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



School App for Parents

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 @dliivies. 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.



Transition

Calderside Academy are in the process of organising a number of transition activities for our P7 children who will be moving on to secondary school in August. Further details will be forwarded on to the children concerned in due course. Over the next few days, letters will also be issued to our P7 parents/carers, asking them to state their preferred choice of secondary school for their child next session. Please look out for this being emailed to you.

Useful Apps

Sumdog *	School App for Parents
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.

