



David Livingstone Memorial Primary School and Nursery Class

June 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)

To all of our children and families,

I hope that you are all safe and well and that you have all enjoyed the beautiful sunny weather that we have had recently. Long may this continue! Thank you to everyone who participated in last month's Beat The Street game around Hamilton and Blantyre. Not only did we come in 1st place for being the Best Placed School, but we also won the Best Average Points category too! As a result, we were awarded an amazing £700 worth of vouchers for the school. We asked the children to vote for their choice of shop for these vouchers and they chose Decathlon, which is a large sports-based franchise. We look forward to new sports equipment arriving in our school very soon!

*Linda Callender
Head Teacher*

Covid-19

Please remember that if your child has any of the coronavirus symptoms listed below, he/she, along with everyone else in the household, including siblings, should isolate straight away. You should book a test for the child with symptoms via www.nhsinform.scot, if you cannot get online, by calling 0800 028 2816.

You should only book a test through Test and Protect if you or your child has:

- A new, continuous cough (coughing for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours)
- Fever/high temperature (37.8°C or greater)
- Loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste



Children will be sent home from school/nursery if they are showing symptoms of coronavirus. If your child is feeling unwell with different symptoms, you should treat those as you normally would. This may mean that your child will have to be absent from school/nursery for a few days. Please remember that a test should only be arranged if one of the recognised Covid-19 symptoms is present or a contact tracer asks you to.

If your child is asked to self-isolate, everyone in the household should continue to isolate until the test results come through. If the test result for your child is negative, and your child is not already isolating as a 'close contact' of a confirmed case, he/she can end isolation and return to school/nursery when they are well enough and have not had a fever for 48 hours. If the test is positive, your symptomatic child should remain in isolation 10 days from when the symptoms started, or longer if they still have a fever. The rest of the household should remain in isolation for 14 days from when the person who tested positive showed symptoms, even if they do not have symptoms themselves. Please also keep us updated on a daily basis regarding any absence and the results of any tests.

In line with Scottish Government guidelines, all adults (unless exempt) should wear a face covering when they are dropping off or collecting children, even if you are standing at the school gate. Please also respect the 2m social distancing rule between one another and remember to keep a clear pathway for people walking with children at the start and end of the day.

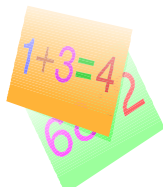


Full Reports

Our Full Reports for most of P1-P7 pupils were sent home last week and our Nursery Reports will be issued this week. Please remember to complete the parent/child response sheet at the back of your child's report and return this to your child's class teacher **by Monday, 7th June**. Thank you.

Parent/Carer Consultations

Our parent/carers telephone consultations will be taking place over the course of the next couple of weeks. I hope that you find these informative and useful. If you have not yet returned the form requesting a telephone appointment, please do so as soon as possible so that all appointments can be allocated. Thank you.



Scottish Mathematical Challenge

Once again, pupils from our school have excelled in the Scottish Mathematical Challenge. Two children gained a Silver Award - Freya Scholes (P7) and Beth Anderson (P6) – and Logan Bradford (P6) also gained a Bronze Award. What a fantastic achievement for all 3 children!

Nursery Children

Almost all of our Nursery children will soon be making the transition into P1 and, for few boys and girls, this will mean a change of school. We have loved getting to know all of them, watching them grow in confidence day by day. We now wish them all 'good luck' as they move on to the next stage in their educational journey and would like to thank all of their parents/carers and other family members for being so supportive of our Nursery over the past 2 years.



P7 Transition

As our P7 children prepare to move on to secondary school, I would like to take this opportunity to wish them all the very best for the future and to thank them for everything that they have contributed to DLMPS in the time that they have been with us. We will be sad to see them go, but hope that they continue to try their very best in everything that they do so that they can follow their hopes and their dreams at high school. Thank you, too, to all the respective parents/carers for all the support that you have given the school over the years.

P1 Inductions

Thank you to all our parents/carers who recently attended our online P1 Induction session. We hope to be able to meet you in person very soon. In the meantime, please continue to check the 'P1 Induction 2021' tab on our school website for any new information regarding your child starting with us in August.



Leavers' Events

Unfortunately, we are still unable to have parents/carers in our school at present. We will, however, still have a Leavers' Event for those children moving on either into P1 or onto secondary school. These events will be videoed and posted on your child's Google Classroom/Learning Journal for you to see. More information regarding activities that have been planned for the children will be sent home to the parents/carers of the children concerned later this week.

School Uniform

A few parents have been in touch regarding the supply of school uniform. This is now available to order online from Scotcrest in Hamilton (www.Scotcrest.co.uk). Please also remember that we also have a recycling rail containing lots of new and nearly new clothing that is available free of charge outside our main office.





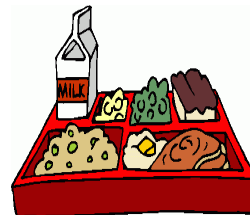
Breakfast Club

Our Breakfast Club has now restarted. There is no charge for this and children are offered the choice of Weetabix/toast/fresh fruit and a cup of water/milk. Children coming to Breakfast Club should enter the school via the main door **between 8.25am and 8.40am**. Unfortunately, we will be unable to accept any children outwith these times. Whilst waiting outside, children (and any adults) are asked to keep a 2m distance from one another.

Each class is allocated their own table in the dining hall and children are dismissed into the playground 5 minutes before their staggered start time. Children are supervised by 2 support assistants and they are expected to show responsible and safe behaviour at all times, following the same rules that apply in our dining hall at lunchtime. All children who have attended so far have been an absolute credit to themselves and their families.

Summer Menu

The school dinner menu changed as of **Monday, 26th April** and the cost of a school meal increased to **£1.95** on this day too. A copy of this new menu has been posted on our school app and on our school website. It is also available on South Lanarkshire Council's website, too. There are quite a number of changes to the food on offer, and the green tray is now always a vegetarian option. Please take the time to ensure that there is something that your child will eat on the menu if you are wanting them to have a school lunch to avoid disappointment. Thank you.



Google Form

Thank you to everyone who completed our online Google Form linked to our school improvement priorities for next session. We have also consulted with the children, as well as staff at all levels, and will use these results to inform our targets for 2021/2022. Further information regarding our School Improvement Plan for 2021/2022 will be sent home at the beginning of next session.

Monthly Reading Challenges

Our P6 class and Miss Smith have organised a final whole school monthly reading challenge for the month of June, so please look out for information about this being posted on your child's 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, so please encourage your child to participate. This month's challenge certainly sounds like great fun!

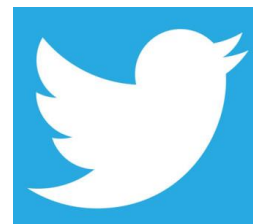


Pupil Sickness

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.

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**

Primary School App

Please 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 and we will do our best to help.

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 started 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, including the Pregnancy and Baby Payment and Early Learning Payment, please access www.mygov.scot/benefits or call 0800 182 2222.

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.

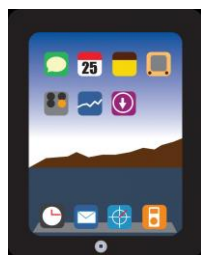


Parent Club

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



Family Fund

We have just recently found out about an organisation called 'Family Fund' which supports families on low incomes who are raising a disabled or seriously ill child up to the age of 17 years old. These grants are available annually and can be used for items such as computers and tablets, sensory toys, family breaks, outdoor play equipment, furniture and kitchen appliances. If you think this may be of interest to you, please visit the following website for more information: www.familyfund.org.uk

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.





Ready Steady Learn Books

Every child has 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.

Homework

All classes are issued with homework on a weekly basis. This is posted on your child's Google Classroom if your child is in P3/4 to P7, whilst paper packs are issued to all of our P1-P3 classes. All homework is designed to reinforce the children's learning done in class, so your support in ensuring that all allocated tasks are completed is gratefully appreciated.



Google Classroom

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.

Stationery and Other Resources

If your child requires any resources to support them with their home learning (e.g. jotters, pencils, etc), please contact the school office and we will arrange for these to be sent home. Thank you.



ParentPay

We still have a few families who have not registered with ParentPay. This resource is used to pay for school lunches and milk, as well as to collect in any money that is needed in order for your child to be able to participate in school activities since we are no longer expected to handle any cash.

We also use the email addresses stored on ParentPay to send out important communication from the school. This helps us to be more environmentally-friendly since we do not then have to print our paper copies of letters, etc for all our families. In addition, it also saves us a considerable amount of money on paper and postage and means that we can then use this to buy additional resources for the children.

If you have not registered with ParentPay, please could you contact Mrs Cockburn in our school office to find out how to do this as soon as possible. Thank you.

Correspondence with Teachers

Now that all children are back in school, please could we ask that all emails intended for a class teacher are sent to the office email address (gw14dlmpsoffice@glow.sch.uk) rather than directly to class teachers. Thank you.



Parent Council Meeting

Our next Parent Council meeting will take place via Zoom on **Thursday, 17th June** starting at 6.30pm and all parent/carers are welcome to attend. If you wish to attend this meeting, please contact the school office so that log-in details can be sent home.

Sports Day

Under current restrictions, all Sports Day events have to be completed in class 'bubbles' and we are unable to invite parents/carers to attend. Class teachers will, therefore, organise a range of fun activities during the children's normal PE times. Let's hope for lots of dry weather!





Family Holidays

In line with South Lanarkshire Council policy, the school implements a Maximising Attendance policy and holiday absences will normally be recorded as unauthorised. I would, therefore, request that holidays are taken outwith term time to allow your child to benefit fully from the learning experiences that are planned in school. Please note that class teachers are unable to provide additional work for your child if he/she is on holiday.

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.



Summer Holidays

Please remember that the school close on **Thursday, 24th June at 1.00pm** for the Summer holidays. Pupils will return to school on **Monday, 16th August 2021** following 2 in-service days for staff. Unfortunately, we do not yet know what restrictions (if any) will be in place in August, but will communicate this information with you as soon as we can. Please keep checking our school app and our school website for any updated information. Thank you.

Final Words ...

It's hard to believe that we are at the start of June already and the Summer holidays will start in just over 3 weeks' time! This has been an extremely challenging year for everyone and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our parents/carers for your support, patience and understanding throughout the past session. Staff at all levels have risen to the challenge and I am extremely grateful for all their efforts in supporting the learning and achievements of the children in our care. The quality of teaching and learning experiences provided for all of our children was exemplary, something which many parents/carers formally recognised in our recent school improvement consultation exercise.

Nevertheless, the real stars are, of course, our wonderful children who have shown great resilience and strength of character during these restless times. Boys and girls, I salute you all! The standard of work that they completed whilst engaging in online learning at home was absolutely phenomenal, with many families showing great imagination and meaningful ideas of their own, too. Thank you for taking the time to share these with us. They really helped to bring a smile to many faces when we were unable to be together!

As we approach the end of another term, I hope that you and your family continue to keep safe and well. Please remember to contact me (gw14dlmpsht@glow.sch.uk) if there is anything that I can do to support you and your family.

Finally, as this shall be the last newsletter for this session, I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a relaxing and enjoyable Summer holiday when it comes. Hopefully we will be blessed with good weather and I look forward to being able to invite all of our families back into the school very soon. Keep smiling everyone!

Linda Callender
Head Teacher

