

David Livingstone Memorial Primary School and Nursery Class

March 2022
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

It is hard to believe that it is already the start of March. Hopefully, some of the sunny days that we have been experiencing recently are a promising sign that Spring is on its way.

Within schools, we can now mix class groupings again in line with the release of some Covid mitigations in schools. This is a welcome reprieve since children love sharing their learning with others and they are having great fun mixing with their friends out in the playground. Please make sure that you are fully aware of the changes in relation to who needs to self-isolate and for how long by reading the guidance listed below so that we can protect all of our children and staff.

Please remember that the school is here to support you and your family at all 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*

Covid-19

Please remember that if your child has any of the coronavirus symptoms listed below, he/she should isolate straight away. You should book a PCR test via www.nhsinform.scot, or by calling 0800 028 2816 and your child should remain off of school/nursery until their test results have been received. You should 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

In line with the new guidelines, children can return to school/nursery if someone in their household or one of their close contacts receives a positive PCR test. However, they should take daily lateral flow tests (LFTs) for a period of 7 days and must test negative every day. If a child has a positive LFT and develops symptoms, he/she should then arrange a PCR test. If a child tests positive on a LFT but has no symptoms, there is no longer a requirement to book a PCR test to confirm the LFT result, but your child should still self-isolate for a period of 10 days. You can, however, end the isolation before the end of the 10 days provided your child has returned 2 consecutive LFTs taken at least 24 hours apart, with the first test being completed no earlier than Day 6. Even if both these tests are negative, your child should still not return if he/she has a fever. For further guidance on self-isolation, please look at the NHS Inform website.

LFTs can be collected from a local pharmacy, local collection points, as well as from regional and local test sites. They can also be ordered online for home delivery.

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 for a few days. Remember that if your child has been sick or has diarrhoea, he/she should remain off school for 48 hours (2 days) after the last episode of their illness.

Please keep us updated on a daily basis regarding any absence and the results of any tests as this affects the absence code that is recorded for your child.

Workers who earn less than the living wage and have been asked to isolate by Test and Protect may be eligible for the £500 Self-Isolation Support Grant. Practical support, such as food or essential medicine deliveries, are available through the self-isolation assistance service, and the national Coronavirus Helpline – available on 0800 111 4000, Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm – to ensure that people who are required to self-isolate have the support they need.

P1- P7 Online Learning

If your child has been asked to isolate because of Covid-19, work will be posted up on Google Classroom. Please encourage your child to complete this if they are fit and able to do so. We do, however, understand that this might sometimes be difficult, especially if one of the adults with whom they live is unwell, so please just do what suits your individual circumstances.

If you have any problems accessing Google Classroom from home, please email Miss Lattimer (Depute Head Teacher) and she will do her best to help (gw07lattimerjennifer@glow.sch.uk). A helpsheet explaining how to access Google Classroom is available on our school website. We also recently posted some QR codes on our website and school app. If you scan these with your phone/iPad, you will be taken straight to a series of guides to support you with the use of Google Classroom, including how to post up completed work. We still have a few Chromebooks that we are able to loan out to families to support them with learning at home should you require an additional device. Please either phone or email Miss Lattimer if this something that you require.



Google Classroom



Nursery Learning Journals

If a child from our nursery has to self-isolate but is keeping well, our Early Years staff will begin posting up learning activities on the child's online Learning Journal 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 from home. Like the rest of the school, staff will comment on anything that is posted up.

P.E. Times

As P.E. forms part of our national curriculum, it is expected that all pupils will participate in this activity. If, for any reason, your child is unable to take part in P.E., please notify his/her class teacher in writing. At present, all children are still required to come dressed in suitable clothing in order to take part in P.E. on their allocated gym days. This means that they should wear leggings/joggers, a t-shirt and appropriate gym shoes. In line with South Lanarkshire Council policy, no football colours, including club shorts or tracksuits, should be worn at any time in school. **Please note that crop tops are not appropriate for wearing in school either.**



Children are advised not wear jewellery to school on P.E. days. If they do, they will need to remove it before taking part in any physical activity. Parents/carers are also asked to provide small plasters to cover their child's ears if he/she is unable to take out their own earrings.



Scottish Government National Child Online Safety Campaign

We continually receive concerns about children's inappropriate use of technology at home and recently invited in our 2 Community Police Officers to speak to the P6 and P7 children about the possible consequences of their actions. Please see the supporting hub at parentclub.scot/online-safety, which is packed with practical ideas and advice for parents to feel more confident and informed on the steps they can take to keep their children safer online.

P1-3 21st Century Families Play Award

We recently launched a 21st Century Families Play Award for all our P1-3 children. This is designed to encourage parents/carers to engage in lots of fun activities with their children, without costing them any money. Miss Marshall (our P1/2 teacher) has created an interactive PowerPoint explaining exactly what is involved in this project and this has been posted on all of our P1-3 Google Classrooms for you to see. She has also given you lots of ideas for free things that you can do in our local area if you have spare time after school or at a weekend.



Please encourage your child to become involved as there will be a special celebration ceremony for all those who participate towards the end of session. Many children engaged in a similar project last year, with the feedback that we received from them being extremely positive. Should you have any questions about this project, please contact the school office (gw14dlmpsoffice@glow.sch.uk) and we will arrange for Miss Marshall to give you a call.



P1-3 Book Swap

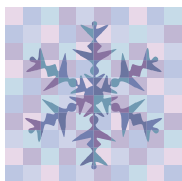
Thank you to our Reading Schools Committee supported by Mr Burns (P7 teacher) and Mrs Charlton (one of our parent volunteers) for organising a very successful Book Swap for our P1-3 children on Friday, 25th February. This work is part of our plans to increase reading for enjoyment across the school.

Eat Them to Defeat Them

The school is currently engaging in a campaign called 'Eat Them to Defeat Them', the purpose of which is to encourage children to eat more vegetables. This project will run for a period of 5 weeks, with a focus on a different vegetable each week (carrots, peppers, broccoli, tomatoes and peas).



Mrs Crawford (Principal Teacher) will set up a tasting table in the dinner hall each day and our cook, Jenny, will create different recipes using one of the vegetables as the main ingredient. Children will then be encouraged to come and try some of them, if they wish. Over the course of the next 5 weeks, pairs of classes will also focus on one of the 5 vegetables and complete a range of different activities linked to this vegetable, which they will then share with the rest of the school as part of our virtual assemblies on a Friday afternoon. A pack explaining more about this campaign has been sent home with every child, so please look out for this in your child's schoolbag.



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) and, if possible, on Twitter and 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.

Christmas Hampers

Following the success of our Christmas Hampers, the Parent Council will soon be launching the chance to win a Spring Hamper. Raffle tickets for these amazing prizes will go on sale via ParentPay from **Monday, 7th March until Tuesday, 22nd March** at the cost of £1 each and we will post photographs of what you might win on our school app.



Winners will be announced at our whole school virtual assembly on **Friday, 25th March**, then we will contact the lucky recipients to make arrangements for these to be collected from the school prior to the Spring Break. Good luck everyone!



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 whilst in the building and in the playground. Any messages that you need to get to your child during the school day should be delivered via staff in our school office.

School Recovery Plan

Thank you to everyone who responded to our consultation on our School Recovery Plan for 2021/2022. In light of these responses, we have now actioned the following:



You said ...	We did ...
Organise drop-in sessions on how to attach files, etc, on Google Classroom	In all of our monthly newsletters, we have advised parents/carers that Miss Lattimer (DHT) is available for technical support should you require it. A few families have already arranged this. In addition, we posted QR codes on both our school website and our school app offering parents/carers digital support with home learning.
Introduce current class projects rather than looking at historical events.	Learning about People in the Past is still part of the Social Studies curriculum and so all classes continue to have a focus on this each session. However, most classes did a project/series of lessons about COP26 and currently all classes are learning about Fairtrade as part of Fairtrade Fortnight.

ParentPay

At DLMPs, we use a resource called ParentPay to allow families to pay for school lunches and milk, as well as to collect in any money that is requested for 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 yet 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.



Primary School App

We have our own app in order to make communication with parents/carers more effective, as well as to post up photographs of our children's successes and achievements. 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 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.





Pupil Absence

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 or other agencies to visit your home to ensure that your child is 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:

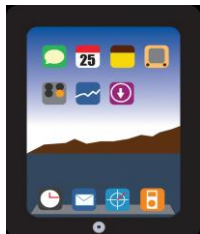
*We offer **free, confidential and impartial advice** - we can help check your benefit entitlement, assist with the claims process, challenge decisions and represent you at Social Security appeal tribunals. For debt issues we look at your financial circumstances, contact creditors, discuss options and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



Scottish Child Payment

Scottish Child Payment is a new benefit which started in 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.



Family Fund

'Family Fund' is an organisation 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

Take A Break Fund

'Take a Break' is Scotland's short breaks fund for parents/carers of disabled children, young people and their families. Take a Break grants can be used for a break away, towards leisure activities or outings; sports equipment and much, much more.

Take a Break Scotland can accept applications from a parent/carer of a disabled child or young person. They can only accept one application per household or family unit, with new applications set to be open in April/May 2022.

If you can say 'Yes' to the following, 'Take a Break' may be able to offer a grant:

- I have lived in Scotland continuously for six months or longer
- I am a UK resident and have recourse to public funds
- I am caring for a disabled or seriously ill child or young person aged 0-20 years who lives at home with me
- My child or young person is not subject to a care order or Looked After by the Local Authority (e.g. the child is in foster care).

Please see info@takeabreakscotland.org.uk for more details.

Water in Class

Children are encouraged to sip **plain water** in class as research has shown that this increases their concentration when learning. This should be in a plastic sports bottle to avoid spillage. Please note that juice and flavoured/sparkling water are not permitted in the classrooms as they leave a terribly sticky mess if they are spilled and may spoil someone's work. Children who do bring this in to school will be asked to leave their bottle in their schoolbag until the next break time. Water is also served at lunchtime and children may also bring in a second bottle of water on P.E. days if they wish.



Primary Dance Festival

A number of our P5-7 children are currently participating in an after-school dance club organised by Miss Campbell (P5 teacher). It is then hoped that they will attend the Primary Dance Festival on **Tuesday, 29th March**. We do not yet have details regarding ticket allocations for this, but will send these out to you as soon as they are received as we know how popular this event is for all our families.

Sanitary Products

The Scottish Government is keen to ensure that sanitary products are freely accessible to all who need them. Our older girls know where they can be accessed in the school without causing any unnecessary embarrassment.



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.

Administering Medicine

South Lanarkshire Council has guidelines on the administration of medication. Should your child require to take prescribed medication in school, it is essential that you complete an 'Administration of Medicine' form. A copy of this form is available on request from the school office. Pupils may carry inhalers with them, if necessary. However, should you wish your child to carry an inhaler whilst he/she in school, an 'Administration of Medicine' form must still be completed.



Only medication prescribed by a doctor and 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. Please also remember to keep us up-to-date regarding any health-related issues for your child as we are aware that these can change at any time.



Breakfast Club

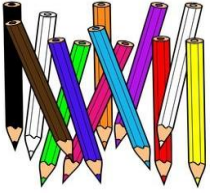
Our Breakfast Club continues to increase in popularity which is great to see. There is no charge for this and children will be offered the choice of Weetabix/toast/fresh fruit and a cup of water/milk. Due to our change of starting time, children coming to Breakfast Club should enter the school via the main door **between 8.15am and 8.35am**. Unfortunately, we will be unable to accept any children outwith these times.

Children will be 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. Children will then be dismissed into the playground at 8.45am where they will be supervised by support staff.

Visitors to School

All establishments continue to be asked to restrict the number of visitors that they have to their premises. These will primarily be professional staff who support children's learning and/or wellbeing. If you wish to speak to a member of school staff, please contact the office by phone (01698 823680) or by email (gw14dlmpsoffice@glow.sch.uk). Thank you.





Homework

All children receive weekly homework, apart from the week immediately before and after a holiday. This is posted on your child's Google Classroom if your child is in P4 to P7, whilst paper packs are issued to all of our P1-P3 children. All homework is designed to reinforce the children's learning done in class, so your support in ensuring that all allocated tasks are completed would be gratefully appreciated.

At the start of session, all children were issued with a pack of resources to support them with their homework. If your child now requires any additional resources to support them with their home learning (e.g. jotters, pencils, etc), please contact the school office (gw14dlmpsoffice@glow.sch.uk) and we will arrange for these to be sent home. Thank you.

Active Literacy Resources

Last term, we sent home an Active Literacy magnetic board with all of our P1 and P2 children. This is the resource that children use in class to support the development of their literacy skills, so we strongly encourage you to use this resource when you are supporting your child with their homework. To help you, Miss Marshall (our P1/2 teacher) has posted a video on how we use these boards in class on the Google Classroom for all the children involved. Again, please contact Miss Lattimer (Depute Head Teacher) if you are struggling to access this at home.



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



Free School Meals/Clothing Grants

If you are in receipt of Housing Benefit and/or Council Tax Reduction from South Lanarkshire Council, the local authority will now use the information that they hold to automatically award free school meals (P6 to S6) and/or school clothing grants (P1 to S6) to eligible families.

All P5 children are now entitled to a free school meal starting in January 2022. Please remember that although P1-5 children do not need to pay for a school lunch, they still need to pay 20p every day if they wish a carton of milk, unless they qualify for a free school meal. All milk should now be paid for via ParentPay. Please contact staff in the school office if you have any difficulties accessing this at home.

World Book Day

As part of World Book Day on **Thursday, 3rd March**, all children will be participating in a range of activities, including a quiz and a scavenger hunt. In line with Cost of the School Day, children are not asked to dress up on this day, but should continue to wear their normal school uniform. All children will be issued with a World Book Day book token that they can then redeem in local shops. These will be sent electronically to all of our nursery parents via the Learning Journals.





Fairtrade Fortnight

This week marks the second week of Fairtrade Fortnight. All classes will be completing activities linked to this and our Fairtrade Committee have asked that children try to bring in a Fairtrade product for their snack on **Friday, 4th March**. If they do, they will gain an extra House point.

The theme of Fairtrade Fortnight this year is 'A Fair Future' continuing from the work done around COP26 and how the climate crisis is having an impact on farmers around the world. The Fairtrade Committee have also organised a competition to have the children design their own Fairtrade biodegradable coffee cup. There will be a winner from each class receiving a Fairtrade prize and an overall school winner who will have their design turned into a biodegradable coffee cup.

Parent Council Meeting

Our next Parent Council meeting will take place via Zoom on **Thursday, 10th March** starting at 6.30pm and all parent/carers are welcome to attend. If you would like to participate in this meeting, please email Karen Rouse (Chairperson) (dlmpsparentcouncil@hotmail.com) and she will send you the log-in details.



Thank you, too, to the Parent Council for buying us additional picnic tables for use in the Infant playground. These will be very useful for all our outdoor learning activities and, in good weather, will be able to be used by the children at lunchtimes.



P6/7 Cross Country

Good luck to all our P6 and P7 children who will be taking part in the Hamilton Schools Cross Country Competition at Blantyre Leisure Centre on Friday, 11th March. We are delighted that inter-schools competitions have re-started again to allow children to experience success outwith our own school.

School Closures

Please remember that the school will be closed to children for the Spring Break on **Friday, 1st April at 2.30pm**. Children should return to school **at 8.55am on Tuesday, 19th April**. Here's hoping for some lovely weather for all of us!



Useful Apps

- | | |
|----------------|----------------------------------|
| Sumdog * | School App for Parents |
| RM Easimaths * | Top Marks |
| Doorway Online | Teach Your Monster To Read |
| Reading Eggs | Teach Your Monster Number Skills |

* Please contact your child's class teacher if they cannot remember their log-in details.



**Dates For Your Diary**

Date	Event and Persons Involved
Wednesday, 2 nd March	P3 Maths Club (selected children) (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Wednesday, 2 nd March	P6/7 Cross Country (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Wednesday, 2 nd March	P5 Community Club at Calderside Academy (3.30pm – 4.30pm)
Thursday, 3 rd March	World Book Day – all children
Friday, 4 th March	Fairtrade snack day – all children
Monday, 7 th March	P5 Reading Club (12.25pm – 12.50pm)
Monday, 7 th March	P6/7 football (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Monday, 7 th March	P5-7 Dance Club (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Tuesday, 8 th March	P6 Guitar lessons
Tuesday, 8 th March	P5/6 Multi-Sports (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Wednesday, 9 th March	P3 Maths Club (selected children) (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Wednesday, 9 th March	P6/7 Cross Country (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Wednesday, 9 th March	P5 Community Club at Calderside Academy (3.30pm – 4.30pm)
Thursday, 10 th March	Parent Council meeting (6.30pm start) – all welcome
Friday, 11 th March	P6/7 Cross Country Competition – selected children
Monday, 14 th March	P3 Reading Club (12.50pm – 1.15pm)
Monday, 14 th March	P6/7 football (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Monday, 14 th March	P5-7 Dance Club (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Tuesday, 15 th March	P5/6 Multi-Sports (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Wednesday, 16 th March	P6/7 Cross Country (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Wednesday, 16 th March	P5 Community Club at Calderside Academy (3.30pm – 4.30pm)
Wednesday, 16 th March	P3 Maths Club (selected children) (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Monday, 21 st March	P3 Reading Club (12.50pm – 1.15pm)
Monday, 21 st March	P6/7 football (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Monday, 21 st March	P5-7 Dance Club (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Tuesday, 21 st March	P5/6 Multi-Sports (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Wednesday, 23 rd March	P6/7 Cross Country (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Wednesday, 23 rd March	P5 Community Club at Calderside Academy (3.30pm – 4.30pm)
Wednesday, 23 rd March	P3 Maths Club (selected children) (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Monday, 28 th March	P3 Reading Club (12.50pm – 1.15pm)
Monday, 28 th March	P6/7 football (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Tuesday, 28 th March	P5/6 Multi-Sports (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Tuesday, 28 th March	Primary Dance Festival – details to follow
Wednesday 30 th March	P3 Maths Club (selected children) (3.00pm – 4.00pm) Final session
Friday, 1st April	School closes for Spring Break at 2.30pm
Tuesday, 19th April	School re-opens at 8.55am

