



David Livingstone Memorial Primary School and Nursery Class

April/May 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

I hope that everyone had a relaxing Spring Break. At the end of last term, we bid farewell to Mrs Watson, one of our school support assistants, as she retired after a remarkable 24 years at DLMPs. She has now been replaced by Mrs Pinchbeck, who will work in both our school offices, as well as support children in a range of different classes. We are delighted to welcome Mrs Pinchbeck as part of our school team and we hope that she will be very happy at DLMPs.

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. Until the end of April 2022, you should also 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 so long as the child is not displaying any symptoms. However, if he/she goes on to develop symptoms at a later date, he/she should then arrange a PCR test and 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.

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 your child's absence and the reason for this.

From 18th April 2022, staff in schools and nurseries are no longer advised to undertake twice-weekly Lateral Flow Tests (LFTs). We are also no longer required to send home individual 'warn and inform' letters now that the transition away from asymptomatic testing is in place. Good ventilation will, however, remain important, so windows and doors will remain open, as appropriate. There are also CO2 monitors fitted in all of our learning areas so staff are able to see if ventilation needs to be increased at any time.

P1- P7 Online Learning

Up until the end of April 2022, if your child has a positive PCR test and 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

Up until the end of April 2022, 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.

School/Nursery Photographs

School photographs will take place **week beginning 25th April 2022**. The arrangements for these will be as follows:



Monday, 25th April

P1-P4 individual photographs and family photographs of any siblings of these children
P1 year group photograph

Tuesday, 26th April

P5-P7 individual photographs and family photographs of any siblings of these children (if only in P5-P7 and not taken as part of a family group the previous day)
P7 year group photograph

Wednesday, 27th April

Nursery photographs (pre-school children will be given a graduation gown to wear)

Please ensure that all P1-P7 children are dressed in their full school uniform (shirt and tie) on the day of their photograph. Please also remember that we have a range of shirts/blouses on our recycling rail at our school office should these be of benefit to you.



P6/7 Cross Country

Congratulations to all our P6 and P7 children who took part in the Hamilton Schools Cross Country Competition at Blantyre Leisure Centre on Friday, 11th March, with a special 'well done' to Finlay Anderson (P6) who qualified for the South Lanarkshire Finals on Wednesday, 30th March. Thank you, too, to Miss Feeney (P5/6 teacher) and Mrs Hill (Office Team Leader) who helped to train the children for these events.

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 (**so long as it is not a day for their school photographs**). 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.



Primary Dance Festival

Well done to our P5-7 children who participated in SLC's Primary Dance Festival on Tuesday, 29th March, putting on a star performance for all those in attendance. Thank you, too, to Miss Campbell (P5 teacher) who trained the children for this event as part of an after-school club.

P1-3 21st Century Families Play Award

Last term we 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.



P6 Junior Cop/Good Citizen Workshops

Over the next 5 weeks, all of our P6 children will be engaging in a series of workshops organised by Police Scotland designed to support responsible citizenship and discourage anti-social behaviour. This is a brand new project and we are delighted to have been asked to be the pilot school.

Nil by Mouth

On Friday, 20th May 2022, all of our P6 and P7 children will be participating in anti-sectarian workshops organised by the charity 'Nil by Mouth'. The purpose of these workshops is to promote tolerance and respect for others, regardless of their religion or the football team that they support.



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.

Pupil Reports

Our Pupil Reports will be issued over the next few weeks, so please look out for this in your child's schoolbag. Parent/Carer Consultations will also take place on **Wednesday, 25th May**, with details regarding appointments being sent home shortly.



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.

A green rounded square containing the text 'Primary School App' in white and yellow.

Primary
School
App



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.

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.

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.



False Nails

Prior to the Spring Break, a number of children came to school with false nail extensions. Please note that these are unacceptable for school as they restrict the things that the child can do in class and they could cause injury to either the child or someone else if they inadvertently bump into them.

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.

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



Just before Christmas, 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.



As of January 2022, all P5 children are now entitled to a free school meal. 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.



P1 Inductions

We are in the process of organising our P1 Induction sessions and will be in touch with the parents/carers of the children concerned over the next few weeks. We are also hoping that staff from our school will be able to visit each of our new pupils in their nursery setting too.

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.



Parent Council Meeting

Our next Parent Council meeting will take place via Zoom on **Thursday, 12th May** 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) (dlimpsparentcouncil@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.

School Closures

Please remember that the school will be closed for the Bank Holiday on **Monday, 2nd May**, followed by an inset day on **Thursday, 5th May**. There will be another holiday on **Friday, 27th May**, followed by 2 days' holiday on **Thursday, 2nd June** and **Friday, 3rd June**. Please note that these last 2 dates are different from the dates that were initially issued to families in August and are linked to a national holiday being declared to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.



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, 20 th April	P3 visit to New Lanark
Wednesday, 20 th April	P6/7 Football (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Thursday, 21 st April	P6 workshop – Our Amazing Brain: Making Choices (Psychologist attending)
Friday, 22 nd April	P7 enhanced transition meetings – selected children
Monday, 25 th April	School photos – P1-4 children & siblings and P1 year group
Tuesday, 26 th April	School photos – P5-7 children & siblings and P7 year group
Tuesday, 26 th April	P5 Football (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Wednesday, 27 th April	Nursery photos
Thursday, 28 th April	P6 workshop – Respect/Arson/Wilful Fire Raising (Fire Service attending)
Monday, 2nd May	Holiday – school closed to children and staff
Tuesday, 3 rd May	P5 Football (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Wednesday, 4 th May	P6 workshop – Respect in the Community and Respect in Relationships (Police Scotland attending)
Thursday, 5th May	In-Service Day – school closed to children
Sunday, 8 th May	Davie Cooper Soccer 7s – selected children
Monday, 9 th May	P6/7 Football (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Tuesday, 10 th May	P5 Football (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Thursday, 12 th May	P6 – Online Safety (Police Scotland attending)
Thursday, 12 th May	Parent Council meeting (6.30pm start) – All welcome
Monday, 16 th May	P6/7 Football (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Tuesday, 17 th May	P5 Football (3.00pm – 4.00pm) – final week
Thursday, 19 th May	P6 workshop – Anti-Social Behaviour (Police Scotland attending)
Friday, 20 th May	P6/7 Nil By Mouth workshops
Monday, 23 rd May	P6/7 Football (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Wednesday, 25 th May	Parent/Carer Consultations – details to follow
Friday, 27th May	Holiday – school closed to children and staff
Monday, 30 th May	P6/7 Football (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Thursday, 2nd June	Holiday – school closed to children and staff
Friday, 3rd June	Holiday – school closed to children and staff

