



David Livingstone Memorial Primary School and Nursery Class

January 2023
Tel: 01698 823680

SOUTH
LANARKSHIRE
COUNCIL

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. Let's hope that the horizons are bright for all of us.

I am pleased to inform you that Mrs Dickson has now started as our temporary Early Years Team Leader and we are delighted to have her as part of our nursery team. Mrs Dickson will remain in post until Miss Bell returns from her maternity leave.

Finally, thank you to everyone who supported the Parent Council's Christmas Fayre on 8th December during which a massive £3000 was raised! The Parent Council also very kindly funded the whole school pantomime and snacks ...oh, yes, they did!!!!

I hope that you find the information in this newsletter useful. Newsletters will normally be sent home at the beginning of each month, along with a list of dates for your diary. Please remember to contact the school if there is anything that you need clarified or want to ask. In addition, 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*

Christmas Jumper Donations

Thank you to everyone who supported our appeal for pre-loved Christmas jumpers and t-shirts and for supporting the Charities Committee with the Christmas Jumper Day that they organised on Friday, 16th December. As a result of donations that we received, we were able to donate to Cash for Kids, a charity which supports children not only in our own school, but also in the local area.



School Nativity

Huge congratulations to our nursery, P1 and P2 children who delivered 2 fantastic Nativity performances towards the end of last term. It always amazes me how confident children are at such a young age. Each and every one of the children involved should feel extremely proud of themselves. Thank you, too, to all the staff who worked so hard to produce these performances.

Peanuts

One of our children has an intolerance to peanuts, so please could we ask that your child does not bring in any products containing peanuts for their snack. Your support with this is greatly appreciated.





P1 Enrolment

Infant enrolment week for session 2022/2023 is from **Monday 9th January 2022 to Friday 13th January 2023**. All P1 enrolments for children starting school in August 2023 should be done online via South Lanarkshire Council's website (www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk).

This website will also let you know your child's catchment school if you type in your postcode. Please remember that even if your child attends DLMPS nursery class, he/she will not have the right to an automatic transfer to our school. You will still have to enrol your child at their catchment school. To complete this, you will need to scan in a copy of your child's full birth certificate, along with 2 proofs of residency (e.g. Council Tax letter, electricity bill, etc). The school will then contact you week beginning 16th January to confirm that your registration paperwork has been received.

Normally, children attend the school that serves the area where they live. However, there are times when parents want their children to go to another school. If your child is starting Primary 1 in August and you do not want them to attend their catchment school, you still need to register him/her at their catchment primary school, before also then completing a placing request form. This is available on SLC's website.

If you are unable to complete an online registration for due to technology issues, or if your property is not listed on SLC's mapping system, please contact your child's catchment school so that this can be completed over the phone. The parent must, however, still provide the full birth certificate and necessary proofs of residence by email, post or in person.

If your child has not had their 5th birthday before they are due to start primary school in August 2023, you may decide to make an application to defer your child's entry to primary school by a year. Your child will automatically get an extra year of early learning and childcare funding **if their 4th birthday is in the period 1 January 2023 to the end of February 2023 (inclusive)**.

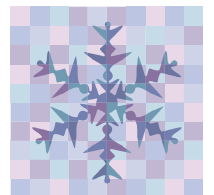
You can also request an extra year of early learning and childcare funding **if your child's 5th birthday is in the period 1 August to 31 December (inclusive)**. This will be decided as part of an admission scrutiny process involving staff based at SLC's HQ as an extra year of nursery funding will not automatically be provided for children in this category if it is felt that they are developmentally ready to come to school.

If you intend to defer the start of your child's primary education, you should still apply to register your child in the appropriate catchment primary school and indicate your intention to defer entry. You should discuss the deferred application with your child's current nursery establishment and they will provide and return the appropriate paperwork when completed to the Early Years Service for processing.

If your child's deferred entry is approved, you will receive a letter and you should confirm that you are accepting the deferral. Once HQ have received your confirmation, your child's place will be removed from their catchment primary.

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.



Textile Recycling Bin

Our Parent Council have been successful in acquiring a textile recycling bin to help raise funds for the school. This bin is located in the Coatshill Avenue car park across the road from the school and it will take donations of wearable clothes, paired shoes and bags. It is estimated that a full bin can raise up to £400, so any donations that you have will be gratefully received.

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 '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. Thank you to our Parent Council who have funded the cost of this app for us this session.

The logo for the 'School App for Parents' is displayed on a green rectangular background. The text 'School App for Parents' is written in white and orange, with 'School' and 'App for' in white and 'Parents' in orange.

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.

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.



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 Pinchbeck in our school office to find out how to do this as soon as possible. Thank you.

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



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.

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.



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.



Ready Steady Learn Books

Every child will be issued with a new Ready Steady Learn book for this term. This book is sent home once per week and is designed to let you know how your child has been in class, as well as outline something that they should continue to work on the following week. Please sign your child's book to let us know that you have seen it and return it to school at the start of each new week. Comments from parents/carers are also welcome.

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.



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. They are also available at outside our school office for any other family members and/or visitors to our school.



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 is 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.

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.



Warm Clothing

As the weather is much colder, we would be grateful if all parents/carers could ensure that their child wears a warm, waterproof jacket when coming to school. We currently have a few jackets on our recycling rail, should this be of any help to families. As well as jackets, we have a range of different items of school uniform (sweatshirts, shirts, skirts and trousers), all of them in very good condition, so please help yourself to anything that your child needs.

Breakfast Club

Our Breakfast Club continues to run every morning. There is no charge for this and children will be 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 8.15am and 8.40am**. 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 5 minutes before their staggered start time.

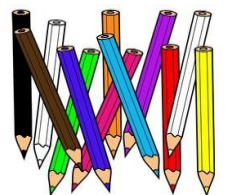
Active Literacy Resources

Last term, we sent home an Active Literacy magnetic board with all of our P1 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. Please contact Miss Lattimer (Depute Head Teacher) if you are struggling to access this at home.



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.



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. As part of the transition process, letters will 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 sent out to you over the next few weeks.

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



Contacting Class Teachers

We understand that there may be occasions when you wish to contact your child's class teacher. 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.

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 P1-P5 children are entitled to a free school meal. However, 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.



Parent Council Meeting

Our next Parent Council meeting will take place via Zoom on **Thursday, 12th January** and all parents/carers are welcome to attend. If you would like to participate in this meeting, please email the Parent Council (dlmpsparentcouncil@gmail.com) so that you can be sent the log-in details.

School Closures

Please remember that the school will be closed to children for the mid-term holiday on **Monday, 13th February and Tuesday, 14th February. Children should also not attend on Wednesday, 15th February either** as this is an In-Service Day for staff. Children should return, as normal, on **Thursday, 16th February** at 8.55am.





Dates For Your Diary

Date	Event and Persons Involved
Monday, 9 th January	P1 online Enrolment Week (see www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk)
Monday, 9 th January	Monthly focus on 'Active' wellbeing indicator starts – all classes
Tuesday, 10 th January	Youth Music Initiative – P5 children
Thursday, 12 th January	Parent Council meeting (6.30pm start) – all welcome
Monday, 16 th January	P2 visiting Blantyre Library (details to follow)
Monday, 16 th January	P6/7 Football (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Tuesday, 17 th January	Youth Music Initiative – P5 children (final week)
Tuesday, 17 th January	P7 visiting The Scottish Parliament
Monday, 23 rd January	P1/2 visiting Blantyre Library (details to follow)
Monday, 23 rd January	P6/7 Football (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Monday, 30 th January	P1 visiting Blantyre Library (details to follow)
Monday, 30 th January	P6/7 Football (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Monday, 6 th February	Monthly focus on 'Respected' wellbeing indicator starts – all classes
Monday, 6 th February	Nursery visiting Blantyre Library (details to follow)
Monday, 6 th February	P6/7 Football (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Thursday, 9 th February	Parent Council meeting (6.30pm start) – all welcome
Monday, 13th February	Holiday
Tuesday, 14th February	Holiday
Wednesday, 15th February	In-Service Day – children do not attend
Thursday, 17 th February	School re-opens
Monday, 20 th February	P3 visiting Blantyre Library (details to follow)
Monday, 20 th February	P6/7 Football (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Wednesday, 22 nd February	Numeracy Open Day - all classes (details to follow)
Monday, 27 th February	Start of Fairtrade Fortnight – all classes
Monday, 27 th February	P6/7 Football (3.00pm – 4.00pm)

Useful Apps

Sumdog *

Oxford Owl

RM Easimaths *

Top Marks

Doorway Online

Teach Your Monster To Read

Reading Eggs

Teach Your Monster to Count

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