



David Livingstone Memorial Primary School and Nursery Class

June 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

It's hard to believe that we are almost at the end of another session. At the end of June, we will be bidding farewell to Mrs Hill, our Support Assistant Team Leader, as she will be retiring after 25 years at DLMPs. I am sure that you will all join me in wishing Mrs Hill well as she prepares to start a new chapter in her life. Once Mrs Hill's replacement has been appointed, I will let you know.

We will also be saying goodbye to a number of temporary staff in our school and nursery: Miss Macdonald (0.6 P4 teacher), Mrs Fraser (0.4 P4 teacher), Miss McArthur (P5 teacher), Miss Jack (P5/6 teacher), Mr Lindsay (CCC teacher), Miss Ballantyne (Early Years Worker) and Mrs Dyer (Nursery Equity and Excellence Lead). We have still not been allocated staff to replace any of our teachers. As a result, we are not yet in a position to let you know your child's new class and class teacher for 2023/2024, but we will share this information with you as soon as we can.

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



Reading Schools Award

I am delighted that we have recently been awarded our Gold Reading Schools Accreditation Award! This award formally recognises all of the hard work that has been done across the school to support reading for pleasure, with a special 'thank you' being offered to our P4-7 Reading Schools Committee, Mr Burns (P7 teacher) and Mrs Johnstone (school support assistant) who have led this initiative this session. We are now only one of 11 schools in South Lanarkshire to have achieved this award and one of only 52 schools across the whole of Scotland! What an amazing achievement for DLMPs!

School and Nursery Inspection Visit

Our long-awaited school and nursery inspection reports from Education Scotland have now been published, with a summary of the key findings having already been sent home to all parents/carers. As an establishment, we are all absolutely delighted with these reports and feel that they provide an accurate reflection of what we do every day at DLMPs. A more detailed version of both reports is available on Education Scotland's website if you are interested in reading them.



Davie Cooper Soccer 7s

Well done to our P6-7 children who participated in the Davie Cooper Soccer 7s tournament on Sunday, 14th May. Although the children did not win, they did themselves proud and were a credit to themselves, their families and everyone at DLMPs.

Sports Day

Our Nursery Sports Day will take place on **Friday, 9th June**, with parents/carers invited to attend from 1.30pm – 2.30pm provided the weather is dry.



Our P1-7 Sports Day will take place on **Tuesday, 13th June**. The format for this will be as follows:

- 9.15am – 10.30am = P1-3 potted sports
- 11.00am – 12.15pm = whole school races for children who have qualified for final (parents/carers of children involved will be notified in advance)
- 1.30pm – 2.45pm = P4-7 potted sports

Once again, parents/carers are invited to attend if the weather is dry. A reserve date of Wednesday, 21st June has been pencilled in should the weather be unkind.



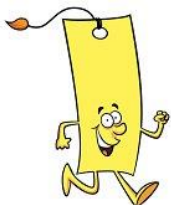
P1-3 21st Century Families Play Award

Earlier this term we launched a 21st Century Families Play Award for all our P1 and P2 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) also created an interactive PowerPoint explaining exactly what is involved in this project and this was posted on all of our P1 and P2 Google Classrooms for you to see. She also gave 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.

We are planning on having a special award ceremony for all the children who have engaged in this project as part of our whole school assembly on **Friday, 16th June**, so please ensure that your child has returned their booklet by **Tuesday, 13th June** so that all of their efforts can be formally recognised. Thank you.

Full Reports

Our Full Reports for P1-P7 pupils and our Nursery Reports will be sent home over the next few days. Please remember to complete the parent/child response sheet at the back of your child's report to confirm that you have received this and return this to your child's class teacher **by Friday, 16th June**. Thank you.



Bookmark Success

Congratulations to William King (P2) who was awarded 1st place in a national competition organised by the charity, Children 1st, to design a bookmark. As well as receiving a very generous goodie bag and a £50 book token for himself, William also won a £250 book voucher for the school and everyone in his class received their very own copy of his winning bookmark! Well done, William! We are all so proud of you!

Parent/Carer Consultations

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Parent/Carer Consultations on Thursday, 18th May. I hope that you found these informative. We have sent a letter home to everyone who did not attend asking you to make contact with the school if you would like an alternative appointment to be made.



Vandalism

Unfortunately, our school was the victim of mindless vandalism over the first May Weekend holiday, with numerous glass bottles and bags of dog's excrement being thrown into the turning area at the front of the school. We are extremely grateful to Nancy, our janitor, did an amazing job of clearing this up so that the school was able to re-open safely on the Tuesday morning; however, this is not something that she should have had to do. Please could I encourage all parents/carers to phone the police if they see anyone causing damage to our school property. Remember that this can be done anonymously if you do not want to give your name. Working together, we can put a stop to such despicable acts.



Sun Safety

Now that the Summer weather is here, we strongly encourage all parents/carers to ensure that their child is protected by suncream before coming to school in the mornings and that he/she also wears a sun hat/cap. Please also ensure that your child brings a water bottle to school every day so that they can remain hydrated. If you have difficulty providing a water bottle, please contact the school office to let us know as we have a small supply that we can issue to those who need one.

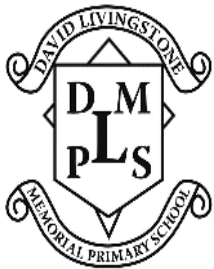


P1 Inductions

It was lovely to invite in our new P1 children and their parents/carers on Wednesday, 24th May and Thursday, 25th May and we now cannot wait to see them again in August. Our current P6 children also did a great job acting as buddies, supporting the younger children to settle on the days of their visits.

P7 Transition

Our P7 children recently spent 2 days at Calderside Academy on 24th and 25th May. As part of these visits, children got to experience a range of different subjects, helping to smooth their transition into S1 in August.



School Uniform

A few parents have been in touch regarding the supply of school uniform. If you wish to have the school badge on your child's clothing, this is now available to order online from Scotcrest in Hamilton (www.Scotcrest.co.uk). However, please remember that this is not a mandatory requirement and many supermarkets also sell items of clothing in our school colours at a cheaper cost. In addition, please also bear in mind 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.

Vision, Values and Motto Consultation

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the review of our school and nursery vision, values and motto. Collated responses have resulted in the following being chosen:

New Vision = We aim to provide an inclusive and nurturing environment where everyone can learn and grow.

New Values = Respect Inclusion Nurture

New Motto = I will go anywhere, provided it be forward. (quote from Dr David Livingstone)

At the start of the new session, we will organise a whole school competition to design a display for these new ideas, with all children being encouraged to submit an entry.



Google Form

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our School and Nursery Improvement Plans consultation. We have also consulted with the children, as well as staff at all levels, and will use these results to inform our targets for 2023/2024. Further information regarding our School and Nursery Improvement Plans for 2023/2024 will be sent home at the beginning of next session.

Nursery Children

A lot of our Nursery children will soon be making the transition into P1. 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.

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 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.

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.



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 Hill 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 '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.

School
App for
Parents



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.

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.

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.

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



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

Please remember that false nail extensions 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. 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, however, 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.

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.



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. Please remember that although P1-5 children do not need to pay for a school lunch, they still need to pay 29p every day if they wish a carton of milk, unless they are in receipt of FME. All milk should be paid for via ParentPay. Please contact staff in the school office if you have any difficulties accessing this at home.



ParentsPortal

Schools throughout the Hamilton area have recently launched a new online resource known as Parentsportal. This is a digital resource that is designed to help replace the need for us to send home paper copies of documents. All children recently received a letter about this new service, including details on how you can register for this. If you have any problems accessing this, please contact Mrs Hill in our school office and she will try her best to help. Thank you.

P7 Leavers

Our P7 Record of Achievement Assembly will take place on **Friday, 16th June at 1.30pm** and all parents/carers and other family members of the children involved are warmly invited to attend.

Our P7 Leavers' Party will take place on **Thursday, 22nd June from 6.30pm – 8.00pm**. A P7 Committee take responsibility for organising this event, so details shall be sent home shortly.



Summer Service

We would warmly like to invite all our parents/carers and other family members to join us at our Summer Service. This will take place in Livingstone Memorial Church at **9.30am on Monday, 26th June**. We look forward to seeing you there!

Parent Council

Our Parent Council meetings have now finished for this session, with the next meeting taking place on **Thursday, 14th September**. This meeting shall also consist of the AGM when new office bearers will be appointed. Details on how you can join this meeting will be sent home at the start of the new school year.



For some parents/carers, this session marks their last year as part of the Parent Council since their child will be moving on to S1 in August. On behalf of everyone associated with the school, I would like to thank those concerned for their undivided support of the years.

Thank you, too, to the Parent Council for agreeing to buy all of the children a drink and a snack for their Sports Days, as well as for helping to organise the leavers' hoodies for our P7 children and providing a generous donation to support the P7 Leavers' Party. In addition, the Parent Council recently funded a climbing wall for our P4-7 children and the forthcoming puppet show for our Nursery to P3 children. As a special treat, they have also arranged for an ice cream van to come to the school on the last day of term so every child will be given a cone free of charge. If you do not wish your child to participate in this, please contact the school office to let us know.



School Closures

The school will then close on **Tuesday, 27th June at 1.00pm** for the Summer holidays. Pupils will return to school on **Wednesday, 16th August 2023** following 2 in-service days for staff. Please keep checking our school app and our school website for any updated information. Thank you.

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!

**Dates For Your Diary**

Date	Event and Persons Involved
Thursday, 1 st June	P3 visit to New Lanark
Friday, 2 nd June	SLC P5 Games at Jock Stein Centre – All P5 children
Monday, 5 th June	Nursery and P1-3 puppet show
Monday, 5 th June	P5/6 football trials (3.00pm – 4.00pm) – selected children
Tuesday, 6 th June	P2 visit to Clyde Valley Family Park
Tuesday, 6 th June	P4 ukulele lesson
Tuesday, 6 th June	Calderside Academy Parents' Information Evening (6.30pm start) – P7 families
Wednesday, 7 th June	P4 swimming
Wednesday, 7 th June	P5/6 football trials (3.00pm – 4.00pm) – selected children
Wednesday, 7 th June	Nursery Messy Play session (3.15pm – 3.45pm)
Thursday, 8 th June	P5/6 visit to Glasgow Science Centre
Friday, 9 th June	Nursery Sports Day (1.30pm – 2.30pm) – parents/carers invited
Monday, 12 th June	Calderside Academy Show - Chicago (6.30pm start) - P7 families
Tuesday, 13 th June	P1-7 Sports Day – parents/carers invited
Tuesday, 13 th June	P4 ukulele lesson
Wednesday, 14 th June	P4 swimming (final week)
Wednesday, 14 th June	Nursery Messy Play session (3.15pm – 3.45pm)
Thursday, 15 th June	P1/2 visit to 5 Sisters Zoo
Thursday, 15 th June	Nursery Graduations – details to follow
Thursday, 15 th June	P5/6 showcase (1.30pm start) – parents/carers invited
Friday, 16 th June	P7 Record of Achievement Assembly (1.30pm start) – parents/carers invited
Monday, 19 th June	P4 visit to Whitelee Wind Farm
Tuesday, 20 th June	P6 visit to Bellahouston Ski Centre – details to follow
Tuesday, 20 th June	P4 ukulele lesson
Wednesday, 21 st June	P1-7 Sports Day (reserve date if wet on 13 th June)
Wednesday, 21 st June	Nursery Messy Play session (3.15pm – 3.45pm)
Thursday, 22 nd June	P7 Party (6.30pm – 8.00pm)
Friday, 23 rd June	P1 visit to Almond Valley – details to follow
Monday, 26 th June	Leavers' Service in Livingstone Memorial Church (9.30am start) – All welcome
Tuesday, 27th June	School closes at 1.00pm
Monday, 14th August	In-Service Day – school closed to all children
Tuesday, 15th August	In-Service Day – school closed to all children
Wednesday, 16th August	School re-opens for all children

