



# David Livingstone Memorial Primary School and Nursery Class

November 2023  
Tel: 01698 823680

SOUTH  
LANARKSHIRE  
COUNCIL

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

Our Values = Respect, Inclusion, Nurture

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

Dear Parents/Carers

Thank you to everyone who attended our Parent/Carer Consultations before the October Week. It was so nice to see and chat with so many families.

Mrs Crawford has started her maternity leave slightly earlier than planned, with Mr Burns being appointed as Acting Principal Teacher (0.4) whilst Mrs Crawford is absent. Two new teachers to our school, Mrs Simpson and Mrs Grady, will cover Mrs Crawford's P3 class commitment. Both teachers were in school last week to meet with children and staff, with both of them commenting on the warm and positive ethos that exists within our establishment.

We also have a new school support assistant who started with us just before the October Week. Her name is Mrs McGall and we are delighted to welcome her as part of our team.

Thank you for your support in ensuring that children come to school wearing their school uniform. This promotes a sense of identity and pride in our school. Please remember that our school uniform consists of the following:

- Black trousers/skirt
- Light blue shirt/blouse
- Royal blue polo shirt
- Royal blue or black sweatshirt or cardigan
- DLMPS school tie

Jeans, patterned hoodies and tartan pinafores are not part of our school uniform and any proposed changes to our school uniform has to go through a consultation process involving all stakeholders. Given that children wear many similar, if not identical items, it would be helpful if you could ensure that your child's name is written on their clothing and personal items (including packed lunch boxes and water bottles) so that any lost property can be easily returned. Our recycling rail containing many new and almost new items of school uniform is always available outside the school office, so please help yourself to anything that your child needs. There is no charge for any of these items. Please could I also remind you that in the interests of health and safety children should not wear nail extensions to school either.

Please could we remind all parents/carers to log on to Parentsportal. This reduces the number of letters that we need to send home, including permission forms. It also allows you to access and update details on your child at any time. At the present time, we still have about 70 children whose parents/carers have not logged on to Parentsportal. As a consequence, we are still having to send information home via lots of different channels, which is frustrating and time-consuming for everyone involved. If you have not yet registered, please could I urge you to do this as soon as possible and contact staff in the school office if you require any assistance with this.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to remind all families that school starts at **8.55am** not 9.00am, so we would appreciate your support in ensuring that your child arrives on time every morning.

*Linda Callender*  
Head Teacher

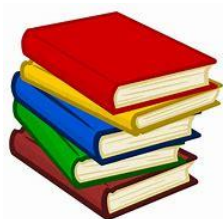


### Homework

Following a consultation with all stakeholders last term, homework has now recommenced this week. This will consist of a termly grid for all classes, with children being able to choose which activities they wish to do. Staff have also listed a number of different websites that you can use to support your children's learning at home.

### X/Twitter

The school has an X account (formerly Twitter) and we use it to post information and photos from events within the school. This replaced our school app from the end of August. The X 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.



### Library Visits

Starting this week, different classes will be visiting Blantyre Library as part of our Reading Schools work to help promote increased opportunities for reading for pleasure. Before children can go on any excursion, we need written parent/carer permission, so please could you ensure that any permission forms are completed as soon as possible. If no parental permission is received, unfortunately your child will need to remain in school and will miss out on activities with their class.

### Christmas Cards

The deadline for ordering copies of your child's own Christmas card is **Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> November**. All orders will then be sent to the Print Room at South Lanarkshire Council Headquarters and we will send home packs of cards as soon as we receive them. All money raised through this initiative will be given to the Parent Council who fund many fun activities and resources for the children in the school.



### School Nativity

Our nursery, P1 and P2 Nativity is planned for **Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> December (pm)** and **Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> December (am)**. Details on how you can order tickets for these will be sent home shortly.

### Christmas Lunch

Our school Christmas lunch will take place on **Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> December**. A flyer will be sent home shortly informing you of the choice of menu that will be available on this day. Children are required to order in advance and all orders should be returned to the school **no later than Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> December**.



Please note that there will be no cold snacks on offer on this day. Children who do not wish to have a hot school lunch are asked to bring in their own packed lunch instead.



### Christmas Hampers and Christmas Fayre Donations

A letter will be sent home shortly requesting donations for class hampers. Please could we ask that all donations are sent into the school **no later than Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> November**. Raffle tickets for these amazing prizes will then be able to be purchased via ParentPay from **Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> November until Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> November** at the cost of £1 each. Alternatively, these can be purchased at the Christmas Fayre on **Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> November**.

The Parent Council are also looking for donations of tombola prizes and bottles for the bottle stall. If you have anything that you would like to donate, please hand this into the school by **Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> November**. Thank you.

## Christmas Parties

Our class Christmas parties have been arranged for the following dates:

P6/7 & P7	Friday, 15 <sup>th</sup> December (pm)
P5 & P6	Monday, 18 <sup>th</sup> December (pm)
P4 & P4/5	Tuesday, 19 <sup>th</sup> December (pm)
P3 & P2/3	Wednesday, 20 <sup>th</sup> December (pm)
P1 & P1/2	Thursday, 21 <sup>st</sup> December (pm)
Nursery	Thursday, 21 <sup>st</sup> December (am)



If you wish your child to go home to get changed for their party, they may be collected from the school at 12.00pm. Alternatively, your child may bring their party clothes in a bag and get changed over lunchtime.



## School Pantomime

Thank you to our Parent Council who have offered to fund the cost of a whole school pantomime. This year's performance is 'Jock and the Beanstalk', and it will take place in the school on the morning of **Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> December**.

## Christmas Service

Our annual Christmas Service will take place in the school on **Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> December starting at 9.30am**. A warm welcome is extended to all our families to attend.



## Promoting Positive Relationships Policy

Prior to starting her maternity leave, Mrs Crawford had been working hard on updating our Promoting Positive Relationships Policy. This is now almost complete and will be shared with families shortly.

## Black History Month

Black History Month is celebrated every October in the UK. As a school, we marked this with a special whole school assembly to help raise children's awareness of and tolerance for cultural differences.



## Anti-Bullying Week

This year's Anti-Bullying Week takes place from 13<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> November. We are in the process of organising a number of different activities for all classes, including a Pupil Council competition, so please look out for information coming home shortly.

## Poppies

Once again, we will be supporting The Scottish Poppy Appeal by allowing the children to receive a poppy in return for a small donation. Please help us to support this very important charity. Donations can be sent into school from **Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> November**.



## Handwashing

Covid and other infections continue to be prevalent amongst all of us. To help minimise the spread of disease, we are all encouraged to follow good hygiene, including regular handwashing. 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. Please note that we have some medically vulnerable children and staff in our school, so your support with this is greatly appreciated.

## Parking

Concerns have been raised about dangerous parking at the junction between Morven Avenue and Coatshill Avenue. Please could we ask that all parents/carers consider the safety of all our children when parking your car. We also politely request that parents/carers do not park in front of local residents' driveways when dropping off/picking up children.





### **Pupil Absence**

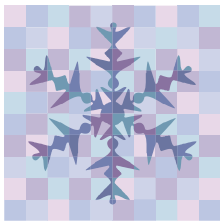
Please note that it is the parent/carer's responsibility to notify the school or nursery if their child is going to be absent before 9.10am. If we do not receive either a letter or a phone call from a parent/carer, we will try to phone home and, if unsuccessful, we will then phone your child's emergency contacts, then possibly the Police. It is, therefore, vitally important that you notify us of any changes to your contact details as soon as possible.

### **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.



### **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 our school X account, South Lanarkshire Council's website ([www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk](http://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk)) and, if possible, on 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. Thank you.

### **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.



### **Textile Recycling Bin**

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

### **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](mailto:gw14dlmpsoffice@glow.sch.uk)). Thank you.



### **Parent Council Meeting**

Our next Parent Council meeting will take place via Zoom on **Thursday, 9th November** starting at 6.30pm and all parent/carers are welcome to attend. If you would like to participate in this meeting, please email the Parent Council ([dlmpsparentcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:dlmpsparentcouncil@gmail.com)) so that you can be sent the log-in details.

### **School Closures**

Please remember that the school and nursery will be closed on **Monday, 13th November** for an in-service day for staff. There is also industrial action planned by the trade unions of non-teaching staff on **Wednesday, 8th November**. Should this go ahead, the school and nursery will also be closed on this day too. Teachers will still plan activities for the children to complete during this strike day as this is still considered to be a working day for them.



**Dates For Your Diary**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event and Persons Involved</b>
Wednesday, 1 <sup>st</sup> November	P4 class showcase (1.30pm start)
Monday, 6 <sup>th</sup> November	P6/7 Football (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
<b>Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Industrial action by non-teaching staff – school and nursery closed</b>
Thursday, 9 <sup>th</sup> November	Parent Council meeting (6.30pm start) – All welcome
<b>Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>In-Service Day – school and nursery closed to children</b>
Thursday, 16 <sup>th</sup> November	P1 Lunchtime Club – details to follow
Friday, 17 <sup>th</sup> November	Flu vaccination – All P1-P7 children
Monday, 20 <sup>th</sup> November	Fluoride varnishing – Nursery – P4 children
Monday, 20 <sup>th</sup> November	P6/7 visit to Blantyre Library
Monday, 20 <sup>th</sup> November	P6/7 Football (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Thursday, 23 <sup>rd</sup> November	P1 Lunchtime Club
Monday, 27 <sup>th</sup> November	P6 visit to Blantyre Library
Monday, 27 <sup>th</sup> November	P6/7 Football (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Tuesday, 28 <sup>th</sup> November	P1 and P7 dental inspections
Wednesday, 29 <sup>th</sup> November	Christmas Fayre (6.00pm – 8.00pm)
Thursday, 30 <sup>th</sup> November	P1 Lunchtime Club
Thursday, 30 <sup>th</sup> November	Scots Afternoon – All children
Monday, 4 <sup>th</sup> December	P5 visit to Blantyre Library
Monday, 4 <sup>th</sup> December	P6/7 Football (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Thursday, 7 <sup>th</sup> December	P1 Lunchtime Club – final week
Monday, 13 <sup>th</sup> November	In-Service Day – school and nursery closed to all children
Friday, 8 <sup>th</sup> December	PGL payment due – P7 children
Monday, 11 <sup>th</sup> December	P6/7 Football (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Tuesday, 12 <sup>th</sup> December	School pantomime – All children
Wednesday, 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas lunch – All children
Wednesday, 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Nursery, P1 and P2 Nativity (afternoon performance) – details to follow
Thursday, 14 <sup>th</sup> December	Nursery, P1 and P2 Nativity (morning performance) – details to follow
Monday, 18 <sup>th</sup> December	P5 and P6 Christmas Party
Tuesday, 19 <sup>th</sup> December	P4 and P4/5 Christmas Party
Wednesday, 20 <sup>th</sup> December	School talent show – All children
Wednesday, 20 <sup>th</sup> December	P2/3 and P3 Christmas Party
Thursday, 21 <sup>st</sup> December	Christmas Service in school (9.30am start) – All welcome
Thursday, 21 <sup>st</sup> December	Nursery, P1 and P1/2 Christmas Parties
<b>Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> December</b>	<b>School closes at 2.30pm</b>
<b>Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>School re-opens at 8.55am</b>