



David Livingstone Memorial Primary School and Nursery Class

November 2024
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. If you did not manage to make your appointment and you would like to speak to your child's class teacher, please contact the school office.

We are delighted to let you know that both Mrs Hood (Team Leader) and Ms Tonner (support assistant) and now permanent to our school office. We are so happy that they are remaining as part of our school team.

Please could we remind all parents/carers to log on to Parentsportal on a regular basis to check for new information. You should also receive email notification whenever something new has been posted.

Finally, we continue to have a lot of unclaimed lost property in the school. 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.

Linda Callender
Head Teacher

Homework

Our homework has now been recommended 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. Each child has also been issued with a pencil and a jotter. If your child requires any resources to complete their homework, they will have access a 'Stationery Station' that we will set up at the front of the school.



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.

Peanuts

One of our members of staff has a peanut allergy, so please could we ask that your child does not bring in any products containing peanuts for their snack or lunch. Your support with this is greatly appreciated.





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.

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. Each class also had their own focused lessons and we are creating a display about what they learned in our dining hall.



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 in to school from **Monday, 4th November**.

Attendance at School

The Scottish Government and Education Scotland are aiming for 95.0% attendance for all children at school. Last session, the average attendance for DLMPs was 93.0%. Our weekly attendance rates for last month were as follows:

Date	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7
30 th Sept – 4 th Oct	91.67%	90.38%	93.59%	96.62%	95.83%	96.43%	93.91%
7 th – 11 th Oct	97.44%	94.62%	87.69%	95.68%	90.00%	87.38%	91.28%
14 th – 18 th Oct	Hol	Hol	Hol	Hol	Hol	Hol	Hol
21 st – 25 th Oct	94.36%	96.92%	92.31%	95.68%	93.33%	93.81%	95.38%
Average per Stage	94.49%	93.97%	91.20%	95.99%	93.05%	92.54%	93.52%
School Average	93.53%						

Over the next few days, all children will be issued with a letter showing their current level of attendance. Please support us in trying to increase our attendance to within national expectations. Thank you.

Did you know.....?

- **96% attendance = 7-8 days of lost learning**
- **95% attendance = 2 weeks of lost learning**
- **93% attendance = 3 weeks of lost learning**
- **90% attendance = 1 month of lost learning**
- **80% attendance = 2 months of lost learning**
- **Children who have an average of 90% attendance every year will have lost the equivalent of 1 year of schooling by the time they are in S3**

Timekeeping

Unfortunately, an increasing number of children are appearing late for school. This can then cause disruption in class as teachers may need to go back over something that a child has missed. It also causes a lot of embarrassment for your child. Please remember that our school starts at **8.55am** so we would be grateful if you could support your child to be on time every day. Thank you.



Did you know.....?

- **A child who arrives 15 minutes late every day misses out on 50 hours of learning over the course of a year**



Anti-Bullying Week

This year's Anti-Bullying Week takes place from 11th to 15th 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.

Warm Clothing

As the weather has now turned 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 number of jackets on our recycling rail outside our main office, should this be of any help to families.



Incredible Years Programme

We are in the process of organising a new programme for our parents/carers called 'Incredible Years' in partnership with 2 Parenting Support Workers. This small group programme will take place in our school during the school day and is designed to promote social and emotional wellbeing in children and families. It will also help all participants to enhance their parenting skills, as well as offer guidance on how to mitigate behavioural concerns that you may be experiencing with your child at home.

If this programme is something that would be of interest to you, please contact Mrs McGeehan, our Depute Head Teacher (gw07mcgeehanashleigh@glow.sch.uk). She will also be able to answer any questions that you may have. We already have a number of parents/carers who have signed up, but it would be great if we could have a few more.



False Nail Extensions

We have noticed that a few children are coming 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. They are also extremely dangerous during P.E.

Pupil Sickness

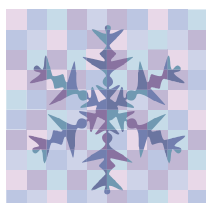
Please remember that if your child has suffered from sickness or diarrhoea, he/she should stay at home for at least 48 hours (2 days) after their symptoms stop to prevent the infection being passed on to anyone else. We have a number of medically vulnerable children and staff in our establishment, so 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.



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) and, if possible, on local radio stations. It is also vitally important that you keep us informed of any changes to your details.

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). Thank you.



School Nativity

Our nursery, P1 and P2 Nativity is planned for **Wednesday, 11th December (pm)** and **Thursday, 12th December (am)**. Details on how you can order tickets for these will be sent home shortly.

Christmas Hampers

A letter will be sent home shortly requesting donations for class hampers that will then be used as a raffle by the Parent Council to help raise funds. Please could we ask that all donations are sent into the school **no later than Friday, 29th November**. Raffle tickets for these amazing prizes will then be able to be purchased via ParentPay from **Monday, 2nd December until Friday, 13th December** at the cost of £1 each. Please note that the Parent Council have decided that there will be no Christmas Fayre this year, so this will be the only way that you can buy a ticket.



Christmas Parties

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



P6/7 & P7
P5 & P6
P3/4 & P4/5
P3 & P2/3
P1 & P1/2
Nursery

Thursday, 12th December (pm)
Friday, 13th December (pm)
Monday, 16th December (pm)
Tuesday, 17th December (pm)
Wednesday, 18th December (pm)
Wednesday, 18th 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 'Sleeping Beauty', and it will take place in the school on the morning of **Monday, 2nd December**.



Christmas Service

Our annual Christmas Service will take place in the school on **Wednesday, 18th December starting at 9.30am**. A warm welcome is extended to all our families to attend.

Christmas Cards

In light of Cost of the School Day guidance, it has been decided that we will not be having children's Christmas cards commercially printed this year. We hope this will help to ease some pressure on all our families.



Christmas Post

Our school Christmas Post will start on **Monday, 9th December** and will run until **Wednesday, 18th December**. This allows children to post their Christmas cards to pupils and staff using the special postbox that is located in the main office. This year, mail will be sorted by children in our P1 class with support from their P7 buddies, so please make sure that names and classes are written clearly on all envelopes. We would also appreciate it if no Christmas cards are brought into school before the starting date. Thank you.

Christmas Lunch

Our school Christmas lunch will take place on **Tuesday, 10th 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 by the date requested.



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.



Children in Need/Be Bright Road Safety Day

On **Friday, 15th November** our Charities Committee and our Junior Road Safety Committee have asked that we support BBC Children in Need, and help to raise awareness about road safety. The committees have asked that children come to school wearing brightly coloured clothing. Please do not go to any expense – your child can just wear something that they already have at home. If you wish, you can also make a donation to Children in Need through ParentPay. On the day, children will be completing a JRSO Road Safety competition and taking part in Children in Need activities in their classes.

Community Library

Our community library will be re-opening on the last Thursday of every month from 3.15pm – 3.45pm, starting on **Thursday, 31st October**. This contains books for children and adults, so please come along and select something of interest to you and your family.



Breakfast Club

Our Breakfast Club continues to be popular with many families. There is no charge for this and children are 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 8.35am**. 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, at the same time as the school gates open for all our other pupils.

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. Water is also served at lunchtime and children may also bring in a second bottle of water on PE days if they wish.





Parking

Concerns continue to be raised about dangerous parking at the junction between Morven Avenue and Coatshill Avenue, as well as cars being fully parked on the pavements around our school. 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.

Parent Council Meeting

Our next Parent Council meeting will take place via Zoom on **Thursday, 14th November** starting at 6.30pm and all parents/carers are welcome to attend. If you would like to participate in this meeting, please email the Parent Council (dmpsparentcouncil@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, 11th November** for an in-service day for staff. We will re-open as normal on **Tuesday, 12th November**.



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Dates For Your Diary

Date	Event and Persons Involved
Monday, 4 th November	P6/7 Football (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Tuesday, 5 th November	P6/7 Athletics (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Thursday, 7 th November	P5 FUNdamentals of Music
Thursday, 7 th November	Staff from Calderside Academy visiting P7 children
Friday, 8 th November	Flu immunisation – all children
Monday, 11th November	In-Service Day – school/nursery closed to all children
Tuesday, 12 th November	Anti-Bullying Week – all children
Tuesday, 12 th November	P6/7 Athletics (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Wednesday, 13 th November	P5-7 lunchtime choir
Thursday, 14 th November	P5 FUNdamentals of Music
Thursday, 14 th November	Parent Council Meeting (6.30pm start) – all welcome
Friday, 15 th November	'Children in Need' and 'Be Bright Road Safety Day' – all children
Monday, 18 th November	P6/7 Football (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Tuesday, 19 th November	P6/7 Athletics (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Wednesday, 20 th November	P5-7 lunchtime choir
Thursday, 21 st November	P5 FUNdamentals of Music
Monday, 25 th November	P6/7 Football (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Tuesday, 26 th November	P6/7 Athletics (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Thursday, 28 th November	P5 FUNdamentals of Music
Thursday, 28 th November	P6/7 Sportshall Athletics Festival – selected children

Thursday, 28 th November	Community library open (3.15pm – 3.45pm) – all welcome
Friday, 29 th November	Scots Afternoon – all children
Monday, 2 nd December	School pantomime – all children
Monday, 2 nd December	P6/7 Football (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Wednesday, 4 th December	P5-7 lunchtime choir
Thursday, 5 th December	P5 FUNdamentals of Music
Monday, 9 th December	Christmas Post starts
Monday, 9 th December	P6/7 Football (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Tuesday, 10 th December	Christmas lunch
Wednesday, 11 th December	P5-7 lunchtime choir
Wednesday, 11 th December	Nursery, P1 and P2 Nativity (afternoon performance) – details to follow
Thursday, 12 th December	Nursery, P1 and P2 Nativity (morning performance) – details to follow
Thursday, 12 th December	P5 FUNdamentals of Music
Thursday, 12 th December	P6/7 and P7 Christmas party (pm)
Friday, 13 th December	P5 and P6 Christmas party (pm)
Monday, 16 th December	P3/4 and P4/5 Christmas party (pm)
Tuesday, 17 th December	P2/3 and P3 Christmas party (pm)
Wednesday, 18 th December	Christmas Service in school (9.30am start) – all welcome
Wednesday, 18 th December	Christmas Post finishes
Wednesday, 18 th December	Nursery Christmas party (am)
Wednesday, 18 th December	P1 and P1/2 Christmas party (pm)
Thursday, 19 th December	P5 FUNdamentals of Music
Thursday, 19 th December	School Talent Show – all children
Thursday, 19 th December	Community library open (3.15pm – 3.45pm) – all welcome
Friday, 20th December	School closes at 2.30pm
Monday, 6th January	School re-opens at 8.55am

