

David Livingstone Memorial Primary School and Nursery Class

April/May 2025
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

I hope that you all enjoyed a relaxing Spring Break. As we enter the final term for this session, there are lots of very exciting learning experiences planned for the children. Please remember to check Parentsportal for any letters that are sent home.

Please can I remind everyone that it should now only be P1 parents/carers who should be entering the playground in the morning. To help encourage greater independence, all other children should be dropped off at the main gate. Your support with this is greatly appreciated.

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: gwl14dlmpsht@glow.sch.uk

Linda Callender
Head Teacher



World of Work Week

Thank you to all our parents/carers and other family members who supported us with our World of Work Week just before the Easter holidays. This was a hugely successful week for all the children as it gave them the opportunity to find out many different careers which they may like to pursue in the future. Thank you, too, to Mrs McGeehan, one of our DHTs, who coordinated all of our visitors.

Primary Dance Festival

This year's Primary Dance Festival will take place on **Wednesday, 7th May from 5.00pm – 6.00pm** at the Town House in Hamilton. Information on how to purchase tickets will be posted on Parentsportal as soon as we receive it from our Active Schools Coordinator. Thank you to Mrs Stevenson (P5 teacher) and Miss Livingstone (P6/7 teacher) who trained the children for this event as part of a lunchtime club.



STEM Open Day

Thank you to everyone who attended our STEM Open Day on Monday, 10th March. Feedback from this event was extremely positive. We hoped you enjoyed having the opportunity to participate in activities alongside your child, as well as picked up a few ideas on things that you can also try together at home.

Hamilton District Primary Schools Annual Swimming Gala

Congratulations to all the children who participated in Hamilton District Primary Schools Annual Swimming Gala on Friday, 7th March. Lots of medals were won across a range of different events, with our school coming in 2nd overall in the team scores. Everyone who attended should be very proud of their achievements! Thank you, too, to Mrs Young (one of our P3 teachers) who coordinated this event.



P6/7 Cross Country

Congratulations to Emilia Horotjko (P7) who qualified for SLC's Cross Country Finals at Chatelherault Country Park on Wednesday 26th March and came in 10th place overall. What a fantastic achievement!

Hi 5 Awards

Well done to all our P5 children who organised and delivered a wide range of different Earth Hour activities for all classes across the school on Friday, 21st March. Taking responsibility for this will be used as evidence to help the children apply for a special Hi5 Award. Thank you to Mrs Stevenson (P5 teacher) who helped to support the children with this venture.



P7 Transition

Transition arrangements for our P7 pupils are well underway. So far, they have received visits from pupils and staff from Calderside Academy, as well attended a Learning Community 'Making Rights Real' Event. In addition, our P7 children will have the opportunity to spend 2 days at Calderside Academy on **Tuesday, 20th May** and **Wednesday, 21st May** so that they can familiarise themselves with the school prior to starting S1 in August. Secondary staff are also in the process of organising an Information Evening for future S1 pupils and their parents/carers. Details on this will be forwarded to our relevant families as soon as we receive it.

P1 Inductions

In February, we had all the children who are due to start P1 in August visit the school for a short tour and plans are now being made for staff from our school to visit our new pupils in their nursery setting. We also have 2 Induction Days planned on **Thursday, 22nd May** and **Friday, 30th May** both from 9.30am to 10.30am. During these sessions, children will get the chance to be in a P1 classroom, whilst parents/carers find out key information about our school.



School Uniform

A few parents have been in touch regarding the supply of our school uniform. If you wish to have the school badge on your child's clothing, this is 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.

Attachment Accreditation

South Lanarkshire Council has established a new award scheme for all establishments linked to their Attachment Strategy. As a school, we were recently notified that we were successful in achieving our 5th Pledge (Respond with Compassion) – and are one of only a handful of establishments across the local authority to have done so.

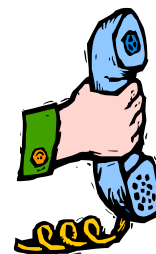


Make-Up

Please can we remind all pupils that make-up is not permitted to be worn in school, outwith special events such as parties. Your support in enforcing 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. It is also important that you let us know the reason for your child's absence, since this will let us know what code to record on the register for them.



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 so far for the month of March were as follows:

Date	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7	Average
3 rd – 7 th March	96.92%	97.69%	95.90%	94.21%	91.89%	91.43%	98.46%	95.21%
10 th – 14 th March	95.90%	90.00%	91.79%	95.79%	95.14%	96.67%	96.67%	94.57%
17 th – 21 st March	98.21%	96.15%	95.64%	96.32%	95.14%	94.29%	93.33%	95.58%
24 th – 28 th March	95.90%	93.85%	95.38%	94.21%	95.68%	93.81%	93.85%	94.67%
Average per Stage (March)	96.73%	94.42%	94.68%	95.13%	94.46%	94.05%	95.58%	95.01%
Average for School (Aug – March)	94.58%							

Please support us in trying to increase our attendance to within national expectations. Our attendance took a dip last month, so your support in helping to improve this is greatly appreciated. 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, a number of children still repeatedly arrive 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 please 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**

Changes to the Price of School Meals

School meal prices for P6 and P7 children will increase to £2.62 from **22nd April 2025**. Milk will continue to be charged at 30p. 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 30p every day if they wish a carton of milk, unless they qualify for a free school meal. All milk should be paid for via ParentPay. Please can we also ask that all families check that they have sufficient funds in their child's ParentPay account so as to avoid accruing a debt which will ultimately need to be paid off. Thank you for your support with this





Pupil Reports

Our Pupil Reports are currently in the process of being proof-read these will be issued to you shortly after the Spring Break. Parent/Carer Consultations will also take place on **Thursday, 15th May**, with details regarding appointments being sent home after the Spring Break. This session, all appointments will be booked via Parentsportal so please make sure that you have registered with this if you have not already done so. Thank you.

Water Bottles in Class

Please can we remind you to ensure that your child brings a water bottle to school. This can be re-filled at any time during the school day. Unfortunately, a number of children are repeatedly asking for cups of water during the school day and we are having to buy plastic cups at an added expense to the school.



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 children and staff who are medically vulnerable, so your support with this is greatly appreciated.

Easter Service

We would warmly like to invite all our parents/carers and other family members to join us at our Easter Service. This will take place in Livingstone Memorial Church at **9.30am on Wednesday 2nd April**. We look forward to seeing you there!



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.

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 8.35am**. 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.



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 to 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.

Textile Recycling Bin

Our Parent Council have a textile recycling bin which is used to help support sustainability, as well as 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.



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.

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.



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, 8th May 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 (dlmpsparentcouncil@gmail.com) so that you can be sent the log-in details.



School Closures

Please remember that schools will close for the Spring Break at **2.30pm on Friday, 4th April**. Children should return, as normal, on **Tuesday, 22nd April at 8.55am**. We hope that you all have a lovely holiday.



Useful Apps

Oxford Owl

Top Marks

Doorway Online

Teach Your Monster To Read

Reading Eggs

Teach Your Monster to Count



Dates For Your Diary

Tuesday, 1 st April	P6/7 'Nil by Mouth' workshop
Tuesday, 1 st April	P5 Titanic workshop
Tuesday, 1 st April	P4/5 visit to Riverside Museum
Wednesday, 2 nd April	Easter Service in church (9.30am start) – all welcome
Wednesday, 2 nd April	P5-7 Glee Club (12.45pm – 1.15pm)
Thursday, 3 rd April	P4 swimming
Thursday, 3 rd April	P6/7 Dance Club (12.45pm – 1.15pm)
Friday, 4 th April	Non-Uniform Day – all pupils (no charge)
Friday, 4th April	School closes at 2.30pm
Tuesday, 22nd April	School re-opens at 8.55am
Wednesday, 23 rd April	P6 visit to Blair Drummond Safari Park – details to follow
Wednesday, 23 rd April	P7 class showcase (9.30am) – P7 parents/carers
Wednesday, 23 rd April	P5-7 Glee Club (12.45pm – 1.15pm)
Thursday, 24 th April	Outdoor Play sessions – P4/5, P6, P6/7 & P7
Thursday, 24 th April	P4 swimming
Friday, 25 th April	P5 Bikeability starts – details to follow
Sunday, 27 th April	Davie Cooper Soccer 7s – selected P6/7 children (details to follow)
Tuesday, 29 th April	P5 class showcase (1.30pm) – P5 parents/carers
Wednesday, 30 th April	P1/2 visit to Sealife Centre – details to follow
Wednesday, 30 th April	P5-7 Glee Club (12.45pm – 1.15pm)
Wednesday, 30 th April	Stop Food Waste Menu – all children
Thursday, 1st May	In-Service Day – school/nursery closed to all children
Friday, 2 nd May	P5 Bikeability
Monday, 5th May	Holiday
Tuesday, 6 th May	Monthly focus on 'Included' wellbeing indicator starts – all classes
Wednesday, 7 th May	P3 visit to 5 Sisters Zoo – details to follow
Wednesday, 7 th May	P5-7 Glee Club (12.45pm – 1.15pm)
Wednesday, 7 th May	P4/5 class showcase (1.30pm) – details to follow
Wednesday, 7 th May	Primary Dance Festival (5.00pm start) – details to follow
Thursday, 8 th May	P4 swimming
Thursday, 8 th May	Parent Council meeting (6.30pm start) – all welcome
Friday, 9 th May	P5 Bikeability
Thursday, 15 th May	P4 swimming
Thursday, 15 th May	Parent/Carer Consultations – details to follow
Friday, 16 th May	P6/7 visit to Kelvingrove Art Gallery – details to follow

Friday, 16 th May	P5 Bikeability
Monday, 19 th May	Wall to School/Nursery Week – all children
Tuesday, 20 th May	P7 Transition Day at Calderside Academy
Wednesday, 21 st May	P7 Transition Day at Calderside Academy
Thursday, 22 nd May	P1 Induction Day (9.30am – 10.30am)
Thursday, 22 nd May	P4 swimming
Friday, 23rd May	Holiday
Monday, 26th May	Holiday
Wednesday, 28 th May	P5 visit to Tall Ship – details to follow
Thursday, 29 th May	P4 swimming
Friday, 30 th May	P1 Induction Day (9.30am – 10.30am)
Friday, 30 th May	P5 Bikeability

