



David Livingstone Memorial Primary School and Nursery Class

November 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

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 look forward to welcoming our P2 parents/carers on 7th/13th November for their rescheduled meetings.

All the schools in the Learning Community have been working on a joint Mobile Device Policy, outlining the rules regarding use of mobile devices, including mobile phones, in our schools. This is now available on our school website for you to read.

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

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.



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 **Tuesday, 4th November**.

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.



Country of the Month

As part of this year's School Improvement Plan, we have started focusing on a 'Country of the Month' to celebrate the different nationalities that we have in our school. So far, we have looked at Wales and Nigeria, with other countries to follow. A display of what we have been learning has also been set up in our school dining room.



Pupil Absence

Please remember 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.

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
29th Sept – 3rd Oct	88.81%	91.03%	99.00%	86.81%	93.92%	87.14%	92.81%
6th – 10th Oct	93.89%	97.44%	78.80%	88.89%	89.73%	83.43%	87.50%
13th – 17th Oct	<i>Hol</i>	<i>Hol</i>	<i>Hol</i>	<i>Hol</i>	<i>Hol</i>	<i>Hol</i>	<i>Hol</i>
20th – 24th Oct	96.11%	92.82%	95.20%	93.89%	90.27%	94.86%	96.00%
27th – 31st Oct	93.06%	89.49%	98.40%	97.50%	94.05%	96.00%	97.04%
Average per Stage	92.97%	92.70%	92.85%	91.77%	91.99%	90.36%	93.34%
School Average	92.28%						

As you can see, our attendance has taken a dip. Some of this is caused by unauthorised holidays during term-time. 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 **10th to 14th November**. We are in the process of organising a number of different activities for all classes, including a Pupil Council competition involving the children creating their own superhero.

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.





Parent/Carers ASN Information Sessions

We recently sent home a letter advising that our visiting Specialist Support Teacher, Mrs Caroline Rice, is organising a number of informal parent/carers information sessions on a variety of topics. The dates and themes for these sessions are as follows:

Wednesday, 5th November = Dyslexia

Wednesday, 12th November = Neurodiversity (Autism)

Wednesday, 19th November = Neurodiversity (ADHD)

Wednesday, 3rd December = Sleep

All sessions will take place in the school's ICT suite from 2pm – 3pm. If you would like to attend one/all of these sessions, please contact our school office to let us know. Thank you.



False Nail Extensions and Make-Up

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.

Please remember that make-up should also not be worn to school. This includes the use of mascara and lip gloss. Your support with this is greatly appreciated.

Pupil Sickness

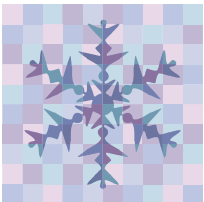
Please remember that if your child has suffered from sickness or diarrhoea, he/she should stay at home for at least 48 hours (2 days) after their symptoms stop to prevent the infection being passed on to anyone else. We have a number of medically vulnerable children and staff in our establishment, so 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/carers 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 **Tuesday, 9th December (pm)** and **Wednesday, 11th December (am)**. Details on how you can order tickets for these will be sent home shortly.

Christmas Fayre

We are delighted that the Parent Council are organising a Christmas Fayre again this year. This will take place on **Thursday, 4th December from 6.00pm – 8.00pm**. If you are willing to support with our Fayre, please email our Parent Council (dlmpsparentcouncil@gmail.com) to let them know.

A letter has already been sent home requesting donations for class hampers that will then be raffled off on the night. Please could we ask that all donations are sent into the school **no later than Friday, 28th November**. The Parent Council are also looking for other raffle prizes, as well as donations for the tombola and bottle stall, so please donate anything that you can.



Christmas Parties

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



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

Monday, 8th December (pm)
Wednesday, 10th December (pm)
Thursday, 11th December (pm)
Friday, 12th December (pm)
Monday, 15th December (pm)
Wednesday, 17th December (pm)

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 'Beauty and the Beast', and it will take place in the school on the morning of **Tuesday, 2nd December**.



Christmas Service

This year, we will be having a Christmas Celebration instead of our usual Christmas Service. The dates for this are **Tuesday, 16th December (am)** and **Wednesday, 17th December (am)**. Further details on this will be sent home shortly.

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, 8th December** and will run until **Wednesday, 17th 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. It would also be helpful if envelopes could be grouped into classes using an elastic band. Thank you.

Christmas Lunch

Our school Christmas lunch will take place on **Tuesday, 9th December**. A flyer will be sent home shortly informing you of the choice of menu that will be available on this day. 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 Day

On **Friday, 14th November** our Charities Committee will be organising a range of activities to help raise funds for Children in Need. Please look out for information about this coming home via ParentsPortal.

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, 13th 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 (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, 10th November** for an in-service day for staff. We will re-open as normal on **Tuesday, 11th November**.



**Dates For Your Diary**

Date	Event and Persons Involved
Monday, 3 rd November	P6/7 Football (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Tuesday, 4 th November	P6 Multi-sports (12.45pm – 1.15pm)
Wednesday, 5 th November	Bonfire-themed lunch
Wednesday, 5 th November	Parent/Carer Information Session re Dyslexia (2.00pm – 3.00pm)
Thursday, 6 th November	P5 FUNdamentals of Music
Thursday, 6 th November	P5-7 Glee club (12.45pm – 1.15pm)
Thursday, 6 th November	P7 Class Showcase (1.30pm)
Friday, 7 th November	P2 Parent/Carer Consultations
Monday, 10th November	In-Service Day – school/nursery closed to all children
Tuesday, 11 th November	Anti-Bullying Week – all children
Tuesday, 11 th November	Fluoride varnishing (Nursery and P1-P4 children)
Tuesday, 11 th November	P6 Multi-sports (12.45pm – 1.15pm) – final week
Wednesday, 12 th November	Parent/Carer Information Session re Autism (2.00pm – 3.00pm)
Thursday, 13 th November	P5 FUNdamentals of Music
Thursday, 13 th November	P5-7 Glee club (12.45pm – 1.15pm)
Thursday, 13 th November	P2 Parent/Carer Consultations
Thursday, 13 th November	Parent Council Meeting (6.30pm start) – all welcome
Friday, 14 th November	'Children in Need' Day – all children
Monday, 17 th November	P6/7 Football (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Tuesday, 18 th November	Big Breakfast – all children
Tuesday, 18 th November	P5 Multi-sports (12.45pm – 1.15pm)
Wednesday, 19 th November	Parent/Carer Information Session re ADHD (2.00pm – 3.00pm)
Thursday, 20 th November	P5 FUNdamentals of Music
Thursday, 20 th November	P5-7 Glee club (12.45pm – 1.15pm)
Friday, 21 st November	Scots Afternoon – all children
Monday, 24 th November	P6/7 Football (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Tuesday, 25 th November	P5 Multi-sports (12.45pm – 1.15pm)
Wednesday, 26 th November	P4 Class Showcase (1.30pm)
Thursday, 27 th November	P5 FUNdamentals of Music
Thursday, 27 th November	P5-7 Glee club (12.45pm – 1.15pm)
Friday, 28 th November	Flu vaccination – all children
Monday, 1 st December	School committees – all children
Monday, 1 st December	P6/7 Football (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Tuesday, 2 nd December	School pantomime – all children
Tuesday, 2 nd December	P5 Multi-sports (12.45pm – 1.15pm) – final week

Wednesday, 3 rd December	Parent/Carer Information Session re Sleep (2.00pm – 3.00pm)
Thursday, 4 th December	P5 FUNdamentals of Music
Thursday, 4 th December	P5-7 Glee club (12.45pm – 1.15pm)
Thursday, 4 th December	Christmas Fayre (6.00pm – 8.00pm)
Monday, 8 th December	Christmas Post starts
Monday, 8 th December	P6/7 and P7 Christmas party (pm)
Tuesday, 9 th December	Christmas lunch
Tuesday, 9 th December	Nursery, P1 and P2 Nativity (1.45pm)
Wednesday, 10 th December	Nursery, P1 and P2 Nativity (9.45am)
Wednesday, 10 th December	P5 and P6 Christmas party (pm)
Thursday, 11 th December	P5 FUNdamentals of Music
Thursday, 11 th December	P5-7 Glee club (12.45pm – 1.15pm)
Thursday, 11 th December	P4 and P4/5 Christmas party (pm)
Friday, 12 th December	P2 and P3 Christmas party (pm)
Monday, 15 th December	Nursery Christmas party (pm)
Tuesday, 16 th December	Christmas Celebration (9.30am) – details to follow
Wednesday, 17 th December	Christmas Celebration (9.30am) – details to follow
Wednesday, 17 th December	P1 and P1/2 Christmas party (pm)
Wednesday, 17 th December	Christmas Post finishes
Thursday, 18 th December	P5 FUNdamentals of Music
Thursday, 18 th December	School Talent Show – all children
Friday, 19th December	School closes at 2.30pm
Monday, 5th January	School re-opens at 8.55am

