



# David Livingstone Memorial Primary School and Nursery Class

January 2026  
Tel: 01698 823680



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

Happy New Year to all our families! I trust that you all had a lovely holiday and had the chance to relax over the festive period. Let's hope that the future is bright and prosperous for all of us.

Thank you to everyone who supported the Parent Council's Christmas Fayre at the end of last term. Early indications show that a profit of more than £2000 was raised, which is an amazing amount of money! The Parent Council also very kindly funded the whole school pantomime on 2<sup>nd</sup> December...oh, yes, they did!!!!

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: [gw14dlmpsht@glow.sch.uk](mailto:gw14dlmpsht@glow.sch.uk)

*Linda Callender  
Head Teacher*

## Christmas Jumper Day

Thank you to everyone who supported our Christmas Jumper Day organised by our Charities Committee on 5<sup>th</sup> December. As a result of donations that we received, we were able to send £136 to Cash for Kids, a charity which supports children within our local area.



## School Nativity

Huge congratulations to our nursery, P1 and P2 children who delivered 2 fantastic Nativity performances just before Christmas. It always amazes me how confident children are at such a young age. Each and every one of the children involved should feel extremely proud of themselves. Thank you, too, to all the staff who worked so hard to produce these performances.

## Christmas Celebration

Thank you to everyone who attended our Christmas Celebrations on 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> December. The children's singing was outstanding and I hope you all enjoyed the festive entertainment.



## P5-7 Glee Club

Congratulations to all the children in our P5-7 Glee Club who performed Christmas songs at Victoria House Care Home on 4<sup>th</sup> December and again at Asda on 12<sup>th</sup> December, during which they raised an amazing £170 for our school funds. Thank you to Mr McInally for supporting the children with this venture.

## **P1 Enrolment**

Infant enrolment week for session 2026/2027 is from **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January to Friday 9<sup>th</sup> January**. All P1 enrolments for children starting school in August 2026 should be done online via South Lanarkshire Council's website ([www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk](http://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk)).

This website will also let you know your child's catchment school if you type in your postcode. Please remember that even if your child attends DLMPS nursery class, he/she will not have the right to an automatic transfer to our school as you will still have to enrol your child at their catchment school. To complete this, you will need to scan in a copy of your child's full birth certificate, along with 2 proofs of residency (e.g. Council Tax letter, electricity bill, etc) **dated within the last 6 months**. The school will then contact you week beginning 12<sup>th</sup> January to confirm that your registration paperwork has been received.



Normally, children attend the school that serves the area where they live. However, there are times when parents want their children to go to another school. If your child is starting Primary 1 in August and you do not want them to attend their catchment school, you still need to register him/her at their catchment primary school, before also then completing a placing request form. This is available on SLC's website.

If you are unable to complete an online registration form due to technology issues, or if your property is not listed on SLC's mapping system, please contact your child's catchment school so that this can be completed over the phone. The parent must, however, still provide the full birth certificate and necessary proofs of residence by email, post or in person.

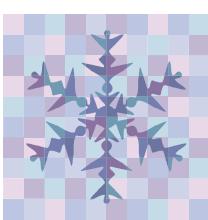
If your child has not had their 5th birthday before they are due to start primary school in August 2026, you can now automatically access an additional year of funded Early Learning and Childcare.

If you intend to defer the start of your child's primary education, you should still apply to register your child in the appropriate catchment primary school and indicate your intention to defer entry on your child's enrolment form. In addition, you should also complete a deferred entry request form which you can get from your child's nursery. Once completed, this form should be returned to [earlyyears@southlanarkshire.gov.uk](mailto:earlyyears@southlanarkshire.gov.uk).

The closing date for deferred entry request forms is **31<sup>st</sup> January**.

Parents wishing to change nursery for their child's deferral year should submit a transfer request form which you can get from your child's current nursery.

If you have enrolled your child for school and then request a deferral year, the school enrolment will be cancelled. Should you later change your mind and wish your child to attend school, you will then need to re-enrol for a space at the catchment school for your child.



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

As a school, we also have an Adverse Weather Plan in place. This means that should we experience adverse weather conditions, the janitor will prioritise the clearing of snow and ice in a pathway leading from the main gates at the front of the school to the main entrance. There will also be one route cleared from the car park to the main entrance, but both parents and staff enter the car park at their own risk.

## **Peanuts**

One of our members of staff has 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.



## 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 the month of December were as follows:

Date	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7
1 <sup>st</sup> – 5 <sup>th</sup> Dec	97.22%	91.79%	90.40%	92.22%	94.86%	92.57%	92.68%
8 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> Dec	95.56%	92.31%	84.80%	95.28%	95.95%	94.29%	82.44%
15 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> Dec	95.56%	96.92%	86.40%	91.11%	95.68%	93.14%	89.76%
Average per Stage	96.13%	93.67%	87.20%	92.87%	95.50%	93.33%	88.29%
School Average (Aug – Dec)	93.48%						

### **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, we are still seeing a lot of children arriving 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 disruption for our catering staff who require their daily numbers given to them by 9.15am. 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**

## Textile Recycling Bin

Our Parent Council have a textile recycling bin located in the Coatshill Avenue car park across the road from the school. In this you can place unwanted 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.



## Instagram

The school has moved away from X (formerly known as Twitter) as a means of communication. Our new social media platform is Instagram @DLMPS2025. Please note that this is a closed and private group with only current parents/carers and staff permitted to follow. We use this platform to share achievements and pictures of what is going on in the school and in your child's class. No pictures of children will be posted until we have permission consented via Parentsportal. If you require support to join Instagram, please contact Miss Lattimer, one of our DHTs, ([gw07lattimerjennifer@glow.sch.uk](mailto:gw07lattimerjennifer@glow.sch.uk)). Thank you.



## 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.

## **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 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.

## **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 is 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.

## **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. Children will then be dismissed into the playground 5 minutes before their staggered start time.



## **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.

## **Warm Clothing**

As the weather is 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, should this be of any help to families. As well as jackets, we have a range of different items of school uniform (sweatshirts, shirts, skirts and trousers), all of them in very good condition, so please help yourself to anything that your child needs.



## **Parking**

Concerns are still being 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.

## **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.** However, 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 qualify for a free school meal. All milk should be paid for via ParentPay. Please also check that you have your ParentPay balance is kept replenished.



## **P7 Hoodies**

A huge thank you to Mrs Barclay, one of our parents, who organised leavers' hoodies for all our P7 children. As a special treat, all of our P7 children will now be allowed to wear these as part of their school uniform. They all look amazing!

## **P7 Residential Visit**

We still have a number of families who have not paid the full balance for our P7 residential visit scheduled for the beginning of March. All monies have to be sent to PGL to secure the number of places that we have asked for at the start of January. If your child is due to attend this visit and you are having difficulties making a payment, please contact Mrs McGeehan, one of our DHTs, to discuss. Her email address is as follows: [gw07mcgeehanashleigh@glow.sch.uk](mailto:gw07mcgeehanashleigh@glow.sch.uk).



## **P6 Refuweegee Project**

Congratulations to all the children in our P6 class who made up 27 special Welcome Bags for refugees arriving in Glasgow as part of their interdisciplinary topic on Refugees. Thank you to all our families who donated gifts for these bags, including Scottish food, toiletries, gloves, hats, scarves and books. I am sure they will be a lovely gift for those who receive them.

## **Parent Council Meeting**

Our next Parent Council meeting will take place via Zoom on **Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> January** 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](mailto:dlmpsparentcouncil@gmail.com)) so that you can be sent the log-in details.



## **School Closures**

Please remember that the school will be closed to children for the mid-term holiday on **Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> February and Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> February**. **Children should also not attend on Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> February either** as this is an In-Service Day for staff. Children should return, as normal, on **Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> February** at 8.55am.



## Dates For Your Diary

Date	Event and Persons Involved
Monday, 5 <sup>th</sup> January	P1 online Enrolment Week (see <a href="http://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk">www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk</a> )
Monday, 5 <sup>th</sup> January	Monthly focus on 'Active' wellbeing indicator starts – all classes
Thursday, 8 <sup>th</sup> January	P5 FUNDamentals of Music
Thursday, 8 <sup>th</sup> January	Parent Council Meeting (6.30pm start) – all welcome
Monday, 12 <sup>th</sup> January	P1 phone calls this week (all children starting P1 in August)
Monday, 12 <sup>th</sup> January	School committees – all children
Monday, 12 <sup>th</sup> January	P6/7 Football (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Tuesday, 13 <sup>th</sup> January	P4 Multi-Sports (12.45pm – 1.15pm)
Thursday, 15 <sup>th</sup> January	P5 FUNDamentals of Music
Monday, 19 <sup>th</sup> January	P6/7 Football (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Tuesday, 20 <sup>th</sup> January	P4 Multi-Sports (12.45pm – 1.15pm)
Thursday, 22 <sup>nd</sup> January	P5 FUNDamentals of Music – final week
Friday, 23 <sup>rd</sup> January	Family Friday in nursery (9.00am – 9.45am) – all welcome
Monday, 26 <sup>th</sup> January	P6/7 Football (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Tuesday, 27 <sup>th</sup> January	P4 Multi-Sports (12.45pm – 1.15pm) – final week
Monday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> February	School committees – all children
Monday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> February	Monthly focus on 'Respected' wellbeing indicator starts – all classes
Monday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> February	P6/7 Football (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Monday, 9 <sup>th</sup> February	P6/7 Football (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Wednesday, 11 <sup>th</sup> February	P4 visiting Science Centre – details to follow
<b>Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Holiday</b>
<b>Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Holiday</b>
<b>Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>In-Service Day – children do not attend</b>
Thursday, 19 <sup>th</sup> February	School re-opens
Monday, 23 <sup>rd</sup> February	P6/7 Football (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Wednesday, 25 <sup>th</sup> February	Mixed Football Festival – selected P6/7 children
Thursday, 26 <sup>th</sup> February	P4/5 visiting Dundonald Castle – details to follow

