David Livingstone Memorial Primary School and Nursery Class

November 2026
Tel: 01698 823680

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

Our Values = Respect, Include, 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.

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 pupils and a member 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, 3rd November**.

Health Week



whole school and nursery will be engaging in a special Health Week starting on **Monday, 2nd November**. During this week, the children can come dressed in sporty clothes every day as they will be engaging in a wide range of activities to support their mental, physical and emotional health. Thank you to our parents/carers who have volunteered to come in during this exciting week. We really appreciate your support.



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 93.7%. Our weekly attendance rates for last month were as follows:

Date	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7
27th Sept – 2nd Oct	92.42%	85.42%	87.16%	82.29%	89.58%	90.54%	88.57%
5th – 9th Oct	99.39%	88.89%	96.76%	84.17%	91.67%	90.27%	85.14%
12th – 16th Oct	*Hol*	*Hol*	*Hol*	*Hol*	*Hol*	*Hol*	*Hol*
19th – 23rd Oct	92.73%	90.56%	90.27%	91.25%	81.67%	89.73%	90.86%
26th – 30th Oct	98.79%	95.56%	95.14%	91.67%	90.28%	97.30%	95.71%
Average per Stage	95.83%	90.11%	92.33%	87.35%	88.30%	91.96%	90.07%
School Average	**90.85%**						

As you can see, our attendance has taken quite 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.

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 **16th to 20th November**. The Pupil Council will be preparing a number of different activities for all classes, including a competition based on this year's theme, 'Be Unique - *Bullying is wrong, let's get along.'*

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.



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.

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/carer information sessions on a variety of topics. She has already delivered one on ASD, but the dates and themes for the other sessions are as follows:

Tuesday, 3rd November 9.15am – 10.30am = Neurodiversity (ADHD)
Tuesday, 10th November 9.15am – 10.30am = Dyslexia
Wednesday, 18th November 1.30pm – 2.45pm = Sleep

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



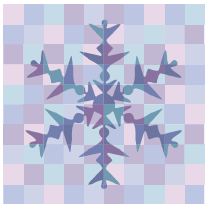
Please remember that if your child has suffered from sickness or diarrhoea, he/she should stay at home for at least 48 hours (2 days) after their symptoms stop to prevent the infection being passed on to anyone else. We have a number of medically vulnerable children and staff in our establishment, so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



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.

Children in Need Day



On **Friday,13th 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.



School Nativity

Our nursery, P1 and P2 Nativity is planned for **Wednesday, 9th December (pm)** and **Thursday, 10th 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, 3rd December from 6.30pm – 8.00pm**. If you are willing to support with our Fayre, please email our Parent Council (dlmpsparentcouncil@gmail.com) to let them know.

We will soon be sending home a letter 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, 27th November** so that all our hampers can get wrapped and photographs posted on Parentsportal should anyone wish to purchase tickets. 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:



P2 & P3	**Friday, 11th December (pm)**
P3/4 & P4/5	**Monday, 14th December (pm)**
P1 & P1/2	**Wednesday, 16th December (pm)**
P5 & P6	**Thursday, 17th December (pm)**
P6/7 & P7	**Friday, 18th December (pm)**
Nursery	**Monday, 21st 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 will take place in the school on the morning of **Tuesday, 24th November**.



Christmas Service

Similar to last year, we will be having a Christmas Celebration instead of a Christmas Service. The dates for this are **Tuesday, 15th December (am) and Wednesday, 16th 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 again 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, 14th December** and will run until **Monday, 21st December**. This allows children to post their Christmas cards to pupils and staff using the special postbox that will be located outside 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, 8th 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.





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, 12th 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, 9th November** for an in-service day for staff. We will re-open as normal on **Tuesday, 10th November**.

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Dates For Your Diary

Date	Event and Persons Involved
Monday, 2nd November	Health Week – all children
Monday, 2nd November	P4/5 Dance (12.45pm – 1.15pm)
Tuesday, 3rd November	P7 drumming
Tuesday, 3rd November	Parent/Carer information session on ADHD (9.15am – 10.30am)
Tuesday, 3rd November	P5-7 Chess (12.45pm – 1.15pm)
Tuesday, 3rd November	P6/7 Archery (12.45pm – 1.15pm)
Tuesday, 3rd November	P6/7 Football (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Wednesday, 4th November	Childsmile in Nursery
Thursday, 5th November	Bonfire Theme Menu – all P1-7 children
Thursday, 5th November	P5 FUNdamentals of Music
Thursday, 5th November	P7 Netball (12.45pm – 1.15pm)
Friday, 6th November	P6 Euroquiz (12.45pm – 1.15pm)
Monday, 9th November	**In-Service Day – school/nursery closed to all children**
Tuesday, 10th November	P6/7 drumming
Tuesday, 10th November	Parent/Carer information session on Dyslexia (9.15am – 10.30am)
Tuesday, 10th November	P5-7 Chess (12.45pm – 1.15pm)
Tuesday, 10th November	P6/7 Archery (12.45pm – 1.15pm)
Tuesday, 10th November	P6/7 Football (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Thursday, 12th November	P5 FUNdamentals of Music
Thursday, 12th November	P7 Netball (12.45pm – 1.15pm)
Thursday, 12th November	Parent Council Meeting (6.30pm start) – all welcome
Friday, 13th November	Children in Need – all pupils
Friday, 13th November	P6 Euroquiz (12.45pm – 1.15pm)
Monday, 16th November	P1 Enrolment Week
Monday, 16th November	Anti-Bullying Week – all children
Monday, 16th November	Book Week Scotland – all P1-3 children
Monday, 16th November	P4/5 Dance (12.45pm – 1.15pm)
Tuesday, 17th November	Nursery ‘Stay and Play’ (9.00am – 9.45am)
Tuesday, 17th November	P6/7 drumming
Tuesday, 17th November	P5-7 Chess (12.45pm – 1.15pm)
Tuesday, 17th November	P6/7 Archery (12.45pm – 1.15pm)
Tuesday, 17th November	P6/7 Football (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Tuesday, 17th November	P6/7 Football (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Wednesday, 18th November	Fun 5Z Netball and Mixed Football Festival – selected children
Wednesday, 18th November	Parent/Carer information session on Sleep (1.30pm – 2.45pm)

Thursday, 19th November	P5 FUNdamentals of Music
Thursday, 19th November	P7 Netball (12.45pm – 1.15pm)
Friday, 20th November	P6 Euroquiz (12.45pm – 1.15pm)
Monday, 23rd November	P4/5 Dance (12.45pm – 1.15pm) – final week
Tuesday, 24th November	Whole school and nursery pantomime (am)
Tuesday, 24th November	P5-7 Chess (12.45pm – 1.15pm)
Tuesday, 24th November	P6/7 Football (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Thursday, 26th November	P5 FUNdamentals of Music
Thursday, 26th November	P7 Netball (12.45pm – 1.15pm)
Monday, 30th November	School committees – all children
Tuesday, 1st December	P6/7 drumming
Tuesday, 1st December	P5-7 Chess (12.45pm – 1.15pm)
Tuesday, 1st December	P6/7 Football (3.00pm – 4.00pm)
Wednesday, 2nd December	Fun 5Z Netball and Mixed Football Festival – selected children
Thursday, 3rd December	P5 FUNdamentals of Music
Thursday, 3rd December	P7 Netball (12.45pm – 1.15pm)
Thursday, 3rd December	Christmas Fayre (6.30pm – 8.00pm)
Friday, 10th December	P6 Euroquiz (12.45pm – 1.15pm) – final week
Tuesday, 8th December	P6/7 drumming
Tuesday, 8th December	Christmas lunch
Wednesday, 9th December	Nursery, P1 and P2 Nativity (1.45pm) – ticket information to follow
Thursday, 10th December	Nursery, P1 and P2 Nativity (9.45am) – ticket information to follow
Thursday, 10th December	P5 FUNdamentals of Music
Friday, 11th December	P2 and P3 Christmas party (pm)
Monday, 14th December	Christmas post starts
Monday, 14th December	P3/4 and P4/5 Christmas party (pm)
Tuesday, 15th December	Christmas Celebration (9.30am) – details to follow
Wednesday, 16th December	Christmas Celebration (9.30am) – details to follow
Wednesday, 16th December	P1 and P1/2 Christmas party (pm)
Thursday, 17th December	P5 FUNdamentals of Music
Thursday, 17th December	P5 and P6 Christmas party (pm)
Friday, 18th December	P6/7 and P7 Christmas party (pm)
Monday, 21st December	Last day for Christmas post
Monday, 21st December	Nursery Christmas party (pm)
Tuesday, 22nd December	**School closes at 2.30pm**
Wednesday, 6th January	**School re-opens at 8.55am**

