



### Staffing

Mrs Barrett has now started her maternity leave. Mrs Smith will be working in Primary 7 Monday-Thursday and Mrs Campbell will work with Primary 7 every Friday. We wish Mrs Barrett a happy, healthy maternity leave and we look forward to meeting Baby Barrett!

Mrs Thomson is currently covering as Acting Team Leader at Bankhead Primary School Nursery Class. She will return to Loch PS Nursery Class soon.

### Attendance and Time-Keeping

Attendance at school is crucial to support children's progress, wellbeing and attainment. If your child is absent, it is important that you contact the School Office on 0141 634 7217 or via the school app to report this absence. In accordance with SLC Policy we must contact parents/carers if we have not been informed of a reason for a child being absent. It is equally important that your child arrives at school on time. We understand that everyone can, on occasion, sleep in and run late for school for many reasons, however regular lateness can be very disruptive to your child's education. Please remember that your child will be marked as 'unauthorised' should they go on holiday during term time.

### Health and Safety

As we have children with severe allergies, please remember that we are a **'NUT FREE' school and nursery**. Should your child bring a snack with nuts in it, the Class Teacher/nursery staff will keep it until the end of the day and return it for your child to eat at home. Thank you for your help and support with this matter.

As you will be aware, headlice can cause problems both at home or in school. Please try to check your child's hair regularly and if you see any headlice, it is recommended that you treat both them and the whole family.

### School Improvement/PEF Update

- Miss Harrington attended a data session on 1.2.23, looking at how to report and record children's attainment and track their progress.
- Miss Simpson has met with all teaching staff to discuss the learning taking place across all classes.
- Miss Harrington attended the 'Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths Leads Network' on 6.2.23, looking at different STEM challenges which can be implemented across the curriculum to enhance children's learning.
- Mrs Gilchrist participated in 'Forest Kindergaten Skills' training on 7.2.23 and 21.2.23, to further develop Outdoor Learning within the nursery.
- Mrs Munro participated in 'Play Based Learning' training on 7.2.23 and 20.2.23, looking at ways to embed this approach within the classroom.
- Mrs Bloomer and Miss Stewart attended 'Talk for Writing Non-Fiction' training on 8.2.23 to further develop their knowledge of this approach to teaching writing.
- Miss Simpson attended the 'Early Learning and Childcare Head Teacher Meeting' on 8.2.23 to learn about the latest developments and to share best practice across South Lanarkshire Council.
- Miss Simpson attended the 'Head Teacher Conference' on 9.2.23, looking at curriculum planning, skills development and learning, teaching and assessment.
- Mrs Roy and Miss McKenzie attended their final 'Nurture UK Accredited Training' session on 10.2.23.
- Miss Simpson participated in the Cambuslang/Rutherglen Locality meeting on 16.2.23 and Learning Community meeting on 21.2.23, to keep abreast of all new initiatives and developments within the area.

- Miss Harrington took part in the next block of her Maths Recovery training on 22.2.23 and 23.2.23, looking at assessments to identify and address gaps in children's learning.
- Miss Harrington, Mrs Roy, Mrs Burns and Mrs Main attended the 'Attachment Network Meeting' on 23.2.23, looking at emotional regulation and how to support self-regulation.
- Miss Equi participated in 'Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths' training on 20.2.23 to develop strategies on how this can be embedded within the nursery environment.
- Miss Simpson has continued to participate in the South Lanarkshire Council 'Cost of the School Day' Working Party, working with colleagues from across SLC to develop a council wide policy.
- Mrs Thomson and Mrs Main attended 'ASD Consultation' training on 20.2.23 to further develop knowledge of this consultation process.
- Mrs Pettigrew, Miss Smith, Mrs Mackenzie and Miss McMillan participated in Catch Up Literacy training on 21.2.23 - 23.2.23, to support the implementation of this intervention.
- Miss Harrington attended IDL training on 27.2.23 to look at this digital program which can support children with dyslexia.

## Nursery Update



February has been a busy month in our nursery with the children participating in lots of fun activities and learning experiences. This has included celebrating Valentine's Day by making cards and creating artwork inspired by love hearts and flowers and the work of various artists such as Jim Dine and Claude Monet. The children have also been learning about 2D and 3D shapes and have enjoyed going on shape hunts and recording all of the shapes they found within the nursery, school and outdoor environments.

Mrs Gilchrist has recently completed 'Forest Kindergarten Skills' training and is looking forward to reintroducing the Forest Adventure programme and introducing the children to new outdoor activities such as den building, using tools and outdoor cookery. The children enjoy outdoor play opportunities and we kindly request that you ensure your child has a change of clothes available in the event they may get wet or muddy. We would also greatly appreciate any donations of clothing that your child may have outgrown for our nursery clothing box.

Reading stories with your child is a great way to develop their Literacy skills and language development. To encourage a love of books and reading, we are planning to start a Lending Library for the nursery children. Each week, every child will be able to choose a book to bring home to read and enjoy with their family. If you have any picture books that are no longer of interest to your child and which you think other children could enjoy, we would be very grateful if you would consider donating the books for our Lending Library.

This month's 'Book of the Month' is "Little Red Riding Hood". The book bag contains activities based on this book to enhance children's Literacy skills and development. We would love to receive your feedback and photographs and we kindly ask you to complete and return the feedback form.

Please remember to check our wall displays regularly as these are frequently updated. We would appreciate any feedback you wish to make by filling in one of our green speech bubbles. We love to share parent/carer feedback with the children!

## GOOD NEWS!



The Head Teacher Awards this month were presented to:

- Sophia Elgey, P4, for being an excellent helper around the school.
- Cameron Baxter, P4, for always showing lovely manners in school.
- Rayyan Shahid, P2, for showing enthusiasm when talking about his learning during a learner conversation with Miss Simpson.

Our pupils continue to make nominations for our Citizenship Awards each week. This month the winners were:

- Lacey Crichton, P2, for being kind to a peer when they were hurt.
- Hassan Sarfaraz, P1, for supporting others in his class with their tasks.
- William Hart, P7, for being an excellent helper to the Primary 1 class.

Every week a pupil in each class receives a Star Award for being a Successful Learner, Confident Individual, Effective Contributor or Responsible Citizen. We also enjoy celebrating the successes and achievements of our pupils. Please encourage your child to share their achievements outwith school with us during our school assemblies on a Friday. This month we have heard from:

- Aaron McEwan, P3, for receiving the 'superstar' award at his drama club.
- Kasey Aitchison, P3, for earning badges at Beavers.
- Maisie Pimlott, P3, for becoming a 'sixer' at Brownies.
- Halle Leonard, P4, for winning 1<sup>st</sup> place at her gymnastics competition.
- Siobhan Carr, P5, for achieving her red belt in karate.
- Lyall Scott, P1, for achieving his red belt in karate.
- Devyn Dunlop, P1, for winning 1<sup>st</sup> place in the P1-2 art category in the Bridgeton Burns Competition.
- Daisy Scott, P7, for winning 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the news desk category in the Bridgeton Burns Competition.

## There's Lots Going On At Loch!



- Primary 7 pupils had great fun on their joint residential with St. Anthony's PS to Inverclyde Sport Scotland Centre on 30.1.23 - 1.2.23.
- We went 'bright' to support the charity 'Muscular Dystrophy UK', raising a fantastic £455.50 for this very important charity. A big 'thank you' to everyone who donated and the Parent Council for organising and donating the raffle prizes!
- We participated in 'Internet Safety Day' on 16.2.23, raising awareness in all classes of the importance of staying safe online.
- Fluoride varnishing took place on 17.2.23.
- In preparation for their move to secondary school, staff from Cathkin High School visited Primary 7 on 23.2.23 to answer the pupils' questions about their transition.
- Primary 3 and 4 pupils have continued to enjoy weekly STEM sessions being run by 'Healthy n Happy'.
- Fun Friday took place on 24.2.23.
- The Bridgeton Burns Competition Prizegiving took place on 24.2.23, where all pupils who were awarded 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> place in one of the categories were invited along to collect their prizes. The Primary 5-7 Choral Verse Group and Niamh Lithgow, P1, who won 1<sup>st</sup> place in their categories performed their winning poems. Congratulations to everyone who attended!
- Primary 7 enjoyed going to St. Anthony's PS on 27.2.23 to participate in a 'Divided City' workshop.
- All of our classes continue to enjoy participating in our weekly assemblies. This month we have enjoyed assemblies where the pupils have been using the document 'How Good Is OUR School' to self-evaluate the work within the school, looking at the theme 'Our School and Community'. We also enjoyed Primary 4's class assembly all about Scotland!

## Diary Dates



- We will be celebrating 'World Book Day' on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2023. The theme is "Read Around the Fireplace" and children are allowed to wear pyjamas to school/nursery on this date.
- The school will close at 2:30pm on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 for the Spring break. The school will reopen on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023.
- The school will be closed on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> and Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2023.
- The school will be closed on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2023 for the King's Coronation.
- School will be closed on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> and Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2023 for the May weekend.
- School will close at 1:00pm on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2023 for the summer break.



## School Contact Details

Head Teacher: Dawn Simpson

School telephone: 0141 634 7217

E-Mail: [gw14lochpsoffice@glow.sch.uk](mailto:gw14lochpsoffice@glow.sch.uk) / [gw14lochpsht@glow.sch.uk](mailto:gw14lochpsht@glow.sch.uk)

School website: [www.loch-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk](http://www.loch-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk)

School Twitter: [@LochPrimary](https://twitter.com/LochPrimary)

