



January 2023 Newsletter

Happy New Year!

We hope you all had a wonderful break over the Christmas holidays and we would like to wish everyone a very happy, healthy 2023! Mrs Smith has now returned following her maternity leave. She will be working across all classes. Mrs Penman will remain with us until the Easter break.

Attendance and Time-Keeping

Attendance at school is crucial to support children's progress, wellbeing and attainment. Please remember that should your child be unwell it is important that you contact the School Office on 0141 634 7217 or via the school app and leave a message stating the cause of absence and possible date of return. 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 each 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.

'Nut Free' School

As we have children in the nursery and school with severe allergies, please remember that **Loch Primary School and Nursery Class is a 'NUT FREE' school.** Please keep this in mind when you are sending your child to school/nursery with a snack/packed lunch. 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 to everyone for your help and support with this matter.

School Improvement/PEF Update

- Our School Handbook for 2023 is now available on our school website.
- Miss Harrington participated in a 'Catch-Up' information session to hear about the impact this intervention can have on Maths and Literacy progress.
- All teaching staff participated in moderation activities this month, looking at the teaching of Listening and Talking across all stages. This is a focus of our SIP to ensure progression across all stages.
- Mrs Henderson participated in 'Maths Recovery' training on 17.1.23 and 18.1.23 to support our work in implementing this resource across the school.
- Our Nursery staff participated in Numeracy training on 17.1.23.
- 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 Roy and Miss McKenzie attended accredited nurture training on 19.1.23 and 20.1.23.
- Miss Harrington participated in the PT/DHT Network Meeting on 20.1.23 to share good practice across the authority.
- Miss Harrington attended the ICT Coordinators Meeting on 23.1.23 to look at the latest ICT developments across SLC.
- Miss Simpson, Miss Harrington and Mrs Burns met with a Nurture Lead Officer from Nurture UK on 24.1.23 to discuss our work within the school and our progress to becoming a 'National Nurturing School'.
- Miss Simpson attended the 'Play Pedagogy' Head Teacher session on 24.1.23 to look at how play can be embedded to enhance children's learning and increase pupil attainment.

Committee Updates

This month all pupils from Primary 1 - Primary 7 met with their committee and worked together to develop their leadership skills and drive forward improvements within our school.

The **PUPIL COUNCIL** discussed areas of the school where they feel require consultation and improvement. They collated ideas and look forward to presenting these suggestions to Miss Simpson and the rest of the school.

The **ECO COMMITTEE** began to develop our new 'Eco Code' and construct our Eco noticeboard. They also began to discuss action points which we can address within the themes 'Climate Action', 'Biodiversity' and 'Water' as we work towards achieving our next Eco Green Flag.

The **HEALTH COMMITTEE** worked together to plan a 'Walk to School Competition' which will take place week beginning 6.2.23 to promote healthy living.

The **ENTERPRISE COMMITTEE** discussed ways to keep our parents/carers informed of our wonderful work within Loch PS including the introduction of a blog. The committee worked together to design what this could look like and what information it could contain.

The **RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOLS COMMITTEE** considered why the right to healthy food and water, an education and to relax and play are important for a child's development. They created mascots to represent each of these rights.

The **CHARITY COMMITTEE** began arranging an event to raise money for the 'WORLD WILDLIFE' fund. This will involve everyone dressing up in animal print or something colourful, and donating loose change. The class which raises the most money will then adopt an animal of their choice from WWF. More details will come soon!

Burns Celebration Day

On 25.1.23, our whole school participated in a range of activities to celebrate Burns Day. Everyone enjoyed wearing tartan and Scotland colours to celebrate this event! Activities in classes included trying some haggis and Scottish foods, creating our own 'Toast to the Lassies' and 'Reply to the Laddies', Burns collaborative art and creating our own tartan.

Each class also learned a poem to perform as part of our Burns Day assembly. We heard various poems including 'The Selkirk Grace', 'Twa Bonnie Lads', 'Willie Wastle' and 'To a Louse'. We were very impressed by the confidence shown by our pupils when they performed their poems and we enjoyed joining together at the end of the assembly to sing "Auld Lang Syne".

On Burns Night, Niamh Lithgow, P1, and our P5-7 Choral Verse Group were invited to the Marriott Hotel in Glasgow to perform at the Bridgeton Burns Club Annual Dinner. They received lots of applause and praise for their fantastic performances!



Nursery Update



This month we have been settling back into the nursery routine after the excitement of the run up to Christmas and the holidays. We have been focussing on providing the children with opportunities to follow their own interests both indoors and outdoors which allows them to lead their own learning to improve their independence and self-esteem.

This month our 'Book of the Month' is "The Three Bears". Mrs Main has organised lots of activities based on this book to enhance children's Literacy skills and development. We hope you enjoy taking forward the children's learning at home using the book and activity suggestions!

Mrs McKee has also introduced a new monthly Maths challenge! We hope this will provide you with easy, fun ways to help your child to further develop their Numeracy skills!

As always we would love to receive your feedback and any photographs you have. We encourage you to fill in the feedback forms within the book bag, a slip on the noticeboard in the cloakroom or email photographs to the school office!

On 25.1.23 the Nursery children enjoyed a Scottish themed snack and had great fun participating in some Scottish dances when we celebrated 'Burns Day'.

The children enjoy outdoor play and we have been making good use of our Hobbit Hut to maximise their opportunities to get outdoors in all weathers. 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.

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:

- Mya Ballard, P2, for stepping in for someone who was absent in the nativity.
- Maisie Pimlott, P3, for always being kind and helpful.
- Ahmad Ayoubi, P1, for always showing excellent manners.
- Devyn Dunlop, P1, for showing confidence when sharing her learning.
- Niamh Lithgow, P1, and the P5-7 Choral Verse Group for their performances at the Bridgeton Burns Dinner at the Marriott Hotel in Glasgow.

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

- Jaxon Porter, P3, for helping his peers during activities in class lessons.
- Sean-Paul McGahey, P7, for showing willingness and offering to complete jobs around the school.
- Mirrin Wallace, P4, for helping to keep her group tidy in class.
- Jack Lowe, P5, for giving up his seat for a younger pupil during committee time.
- Lee Futter, P6, for helping to keep the class library tidy.

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 Lexi Blair, P7, for winning 'Little Miss Determined' at her dance class; Halle Leonard, P4, for winning the 'Fabulous Newbie' award at her gymnastics club and for taking part in the Glasgow Green Santa Dash; Abi Royle, P3, for completing her Swim Skills 1 Award; Nina Stewart, P5, for performing in her dance and gymnastics show; William Hart, P7, for participating in his first driver's lesson and Siobhan Carr, P5, for winning 'Student of the Week' at her karate club!

There's Lots Going On At Loch! 😊

- P1 enrolment for August 2023 is currently underway. If your child is due to start school in August 2023 and you have not already done so, please enrol your child via the SLC website.
- Primary 7 pupils continue to enjoy weekly partnership sessions with pupils from St. Anthony's PS in preparation for our joint residential on 30.1.23.
- Primary 3 and 4 pupils are currently enjoying weekly STEM sessions being run by 'Healthy n Happy'.
- Committee afternoon took place on 18.1.23.
- Primary 6 and 7 pupils participated in the John Wrights Competition on 20.1.23.
- Our Parent Council Meeting took place on 24.1.23. Please note our next meeting will be on 28.2.23.
- 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 input from the Reachout Trust team, looking at new beginnings/resolutions.
- Our classes have all been very busy and some of this great work has been shared on Twitter!

Diary Dates



- Our Primary 7 residential will take place on Monday 30th January - Wednesday 1st February 2023.
- We will be raising funds for Muscular Dystrophy UK on Thursday 2nd February 2023 by 'Going Bright'. Children can come to school wearing bright clothes/accessories. This is a charity that is very important to TEAM LOCH and donations would be greatly appreciated via Parent Pay.
- School will be closed on Monday 13th, Tuesday 14th and Wednesday 15th February 2023 for the February break.
- The school will close at 2:30pm on Friday 31st March 2023 for the Spring break. The school will reopen on Monday 17th April 2023.
- The school will be closed on Monday 1st and Tuesday 2nd May 2023.
- NEW DATE: please note the school will be closed on Monday 8th May 2023 for the King's Coronation.
- School will be closed Friday 26th and Monday 29th May 2023 for the May weekend.
- School will close at 1:00pm on Tuesday 27th June 2023 for the summer break.

School Contact Details



Head Teacher: Dawn Simpson

Telephone: 0141 634 7217

E-Mail: gw14lochpsoffice@glow.sch.uk / gw14lochpsht@glow.sch.uk

School website: www.loch-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk

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

