



Health and Safety

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 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.

As you will be aware, headlice can cause problems both at home and 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.

Attendance and Time-Keeping

Attendance at school is crucial to supporting children's progress, wellbeing and attainment. 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 South Lanarkshire Council Policy we must contact parents/carers if we have not been informed of a reason for a child being absent from nursery or school.

It is equally important that each child arrives at the school in time for the bell to ring at their allocated start 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.

School Improvement/PEF Update

- Our Pupil Council met with Miss Simpson and Miss Harrington to discuss the review of our 'Promoting Positive Relationships Policy'. The pupils explored ideas for 'Golden Rules' and successfully led this consultation process within their classes.
- Miss Simpson participated in the South Lanarkshire Council 'Early Years' Learner Pathways Working Party', working with colleagues from across SLC to plan training opportunities for staff.
- Miss Simpson and Miss Harrington have been participating in Learning Conversations with Primary 1 and 4 pupils who have been keen to share their learning in class.
- Miss Simpson attended the Head Teachers' Meeting to keep up-to-date with new policies, procedures and initiatives within SLC.
- Miss Harrington attended the ICT Coordinators' Meeting to look at coding resources for Early Years and Primary.
- Mrs Burns is currently attending a programme of training based on 'Introduction to Counselling Skills' to support our nurture work within the school.
- Mrs McKee has attended the second session of 'Pondering Pedagogy' training to further develop our practice within the nursery.
- Our nursery staff participated in the third session of the 'Together We Count' training, to support the development of Numeracy within the nursery environment.
- Miss Simpson attended 'Attendance Test of Change' training to support our work in improving attendance across the school.

- Miss Simpson attended 'Early Years Additional Support Needs Coordinator' training, looking at supports available within SLC.
- Mrs Campbell participated in 'Maths Recovery' training to support the implementation of this approach in Primary 2.
- Miss Harrington attended 'Talking Partners at Primary' training to support our Literacy work across the school.

Nursery Update



January has been a busy month within our nursery! We have enjoyed hearing about the children's holidays and what Santa brought them.

Within the nursery we use responsive planning to take forward the children's learning, focussing on their interests and needs. As the weather has been so unpredictable over the last couple of weeks, the children have focussed on this and have been exploring how water changes, freezing and melting as the temperature rises and falls.

On 25.1.24 the children enjoyed a Scottish themed snack to celebrate Robert Burns' Day. We had great fun listening to and singing Scottish songs!

This month the children have been focusing on our 'Rhyme of the Month', "Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush" and our 'Book of the Month', "Have You Filled a Bucket Today?" We have been using this resource to encourage the children to work together in their keyworker groups with the aim that when someone is kind or helpful, they receive a pompom to put in their team's bucket. At the end of the week the team with the most pompoms will receive a Head Teacher's Award.

Mrs McKee's next 'Monthly Maths Challenge' will be issued soon. As always, we would love to receive your feedback and any photographs you have of how you and your child are enjoying these activities to help your child to develop their Literacy and Numeracy skills at home. We kindly ask you to fill in the feedback forms in the book bags, a slip on the notice board in the cloakroom or email photographs to the office. We would like to thank you for taking part in these excellent home learning opportunities.

This month the 'Tiny Talking Team' have been discussing 'Children's Rights' and our next steps for taking this forward to develop our 'Children's Rights Charter' within the nursery. Each month the children will be looking at an article from the 'United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child' and discussing what this means to them. Our 'Right of the Month' for February will be Article 31 - 'you have the right to play and rest'.

The week commencing 19.2.24 will be our parental engagement week, and we would like to invite you to come along to a 'stay and play session' within the nursery. The times and dates will be displayed in the cloakroom. Please sign up for the session that suits you. We hope you can come along and spend time with your child in the nursery, experiencing some of the fun activities we engage with on a daily basis.

As part of our drive to encourage recycling and sustainability, we will be setting up a 'preloved clothing swap shop'. Clothing will be available in the cloakroom and we encourage you to take items that you will be able to use. We would also greatly appreciate donations of clothing that your children may have outgrown which others can use.

Please note that the nursery day finishes at 3:00pm and all children must be collected by this time. If you are running late, please contact the school office on 0141 634 7217 to advise of this.

Robert Burns Day Celebration



On 25.1.24, our whole school participated in a range of activities to celebrate Burns Day. Activities in classes included completing a Robert Burns Quiz, Scottish food tasting, listening to Scottish music, Burns Art, learning about the life of Robert Burns, creating biographies and participating in some Highland Games

Each class also learned a poem to perform as part of our Burns Day assembly. We heard various poems including 'The Keekin Glass', 'My Heart's in the Highlands', 'To a Louse', 'My Love is Like a Red, Red Rose', and 'Parcel of Rogues in a Nation'. All of the children performed with enthusiasm and it was fantastic to see everyone taking part together! We also enjoyed joining together at the end of the assembly to sing "Auld Lang Syne".

Gracie-May (P1), Daisy (P4) and Mia (P7) were invited to record their Burns poems for Heart Scotland Radio which was broadcast during the Des and Danni Breakfast Show on 25.1.24.

On Burns Night 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 performance!

School Captains



Primary 6 and 7 pupils along with staff took part in an election to vote for our second set of School Captains and Vice Captains for term 2.

Congratulations to the following P7 pupils who have been elected as School Captains:

KATRINE: Junior Rough and Mia Sweeney

NESS: Nicole Mitchell and Nico Seaton

LOMOND: Rabea Abu Esbaa and Liam Pearson

TAY: Katy McKean and Jaxon McMillan

Congratulations to the following P6 pupils who have been elected as Vice Captains:

KATRINE: Liah McLeish and Nina Stewart

NESS: Scott McEwan and Alicia Rafferty

LOMOND: Kyiana Collins and Aaron Lafferty

TAY: Jessica Bayne and Zoey Daly

GOOD NEWS!



The Head Teacher Awards this month were presented to:

- Jay Seaton, P7, for increased effort with tasks.
- Mia Sweeney, P7, for displaying excellent leadership skills.
- Gracie-May Donaldson, P1; Daisy Cartwright, P4; and Mia Sweeney, P7, for representing the school and performing their Burns poems with enthusiasm for Heart Scotland Radio.
- The Primary 5-7 Choral Verse Group for performing with enthusiasm during the Bridgeton Burns Club Annual Dinner at the Marriott Hotel.

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

- Abeeha Hassaan, P6, for always being polite and helpful to others.
- Rhea McWilliams, P4, for displaying excellent manners and kindness to all her peers.
- Mollie Lowe, P3, for always demonstrating excellent manners and a caring attitude towards her peers.

Every week a child 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 children. 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:

- Callum McConnell, P5, for being a superstar in his theatre show.

There's Lots Going On At Loch! 😊

- Primary 5 enjoyed their final Youth Music Initiative programme sessions.
- Primary 3/4 continue to enjoy their weekly PE sessions with S6 Cathkin High School pupils.
- Primary 6 pupils are enjoying participating in their STEM Young Leaders after-school club with Mr Martin.
- Primary 5 and 7 pupils are enjoying their after-school club Multi-Sports sessions with the Active Schools team.
- Our Primary 7 pupils have been enjoying 'getting to know you' sessions with the Primary 7 pupils from St. Anthony's PS in preparation for our joint residential.
- 'Books of the Term' were issued to all Primary 1-7 pupils on 12.1.23. We kindly ask all parents/carers to encourage your child to participate in this project and to read their book at home. Class Teachers may also provide homework tasks linked to the book.
- Primary 1 enrolment is currently in progress. If your child is due to start Primary 1 in August, please ensure you complete the registration form on the SLC website as soon as possible.
- All of our Primary 1-7 pupils participated in our Committee afternoon w/c Monday 15.1.23, developing their leadership skills when working as part of 1 of 4 committees: Social Enterprise (who looked at ideas for raising money for the school), Eco (who looked at recycling within the school and our next steps), Charities (who planned for our next charity event which will be for 'Red Nose Day') and Health (who carried out an audit of how Feelings' Charts are used in all classes and planned how these can be adapted and updated to include more emotions).
- Some of our Primary 5-7 pupils attended the final of the John Wrights Sports Competition on 19.1.24. A big 'well done' to all of our children for their excellent participation!
- Primary 3/4 and Primary 7 enjoyed class visits to the local Springhall Library.
- Fun Friday took place on 26.1.24.
- Primary 1 and 7 dental inspections took place on 30.1.24.
- All of our classes enjoy participating in our weekly assemblies. This month our focus has included input from our Chaplaincy Team about the 'New Year', a class assembly from P2/3, consultation on our school 'Values' and celebrating our weekly achievements.

Diary Dates



- School will be closed on Monday 12th, Tuesday 13th and Wednesday 14th February 2024 for the February break.
- The school will close at 2:30pm on Thursday 28th March 2024 for the Spring break. The school will reopen on Monday 15th April.
- The school will be closed to all children on Thursday 2nd May 2024.
- The school will be closed on Monday 6th May 2024.
- The school will close for the May weekend on Friday 24th and Monday 27th May 2024.
- The school will close for the summer holidays on Wednesday 26th June 2024 at 1:00pm.

School Contact Details



Head Teacher: Dawn Simpson

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

Please check our school website regularly and if you do not already do so, please follow us on Twitter ([@LochPrimary](https://twitter.com/LochPrimary)) as we will post regular updates and important information here. Our classes have all been very busy and some of this great work has been shared on Twitter!

