



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.

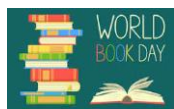
It is equally important that each child arrives at the school in time for the bell to ring at their allocated start time. We understand that everyone can, on occasion, sleep in and run late for school for many reasons, however regular lateness can be very disruptive to your child's education.

School Improvement/PEF Update

- The teaching staff have continued participating in the 'Limitless Learn' training programme, looking at the development of Growth Mindsets and supporting/challenging children's learning within the classroom. The latest session focussed on the importance of closing the attainment gap.
- Miss Harrington attended a 'Supporting Families Event' to find out more about how this partnership can support our P1 families. Supporting Families is an early-stage intervention programme, in partnership with Clyde Gateway and South Lanarkshire Council. The programme supports parents/carers who have a child currently in P1. A coffee morning was held in Loch PS on 20.3.24 for Primary 1 parents/carers to launch this partnership. For more information about this service, please contact the school office.
- Miss Simpson attended the South Lanarkshire Council (SLC) 'Child Protection Practice Development Session' to keep up-to-date on the latest policies and procedures to follow in school.
- Mrs Graham participated in the Literacy Coordinators' Meeting, looking at the latest Literacy developments within SLC.
- Miss Simpson and Miss Harrington attended 'Lifelines Lanarkshire' training, to learn about the multi-agency guidance for those who work with children and young people who may be at risk of suicide and/or self-harm, and how to use this guidance to provide support to children in school.
- The nursery staff participated in training with our Educational Psychologist and Early Years Specialist Support Teacher, looking at how we can support and challenge children within the nursery environment.

- Mrs McKee attended the fourth session of 'Pondering Pedagogy' training to further develop our practice within the nursery.
- Miss Simpson and Miss Harrington have been participating in Learning Conversations this month with Primary 2/3 pupils who have been keen to share their learning in class.
- Our nursery staff participated in 'Together We Count' training, looking at how we can further develop Numeracy skills within the nursery environment.
- Miss Simpson attended 'Attendance Test of Change' training to support our work in improving attendance across the school.
- Miss Harrington attended the launch of the SLC 'Nurturing Interventions Toolkit' to support our nurture work within the school.
- Miss Simpson attended the SLC 'Cost of the School Conference', to become familiar with the new guidance to reduce costs in school for families.
- Miss Harrington attended 'Save the Children' meeting to further develop our parental engagement action plan.

World Book Day



World Book Day took place on 7.3.23 at Loch PS and Nursery Class with all children enjoying a range of activities to celebrate this special event and to promote reading for enjoyment.

Activities included:

- * Dressing in book-related clothing/costumes or comfy clothing.
- * 'Everyone Reading in Class' time in all classes to promote reading for enjoyment.
- * Reading surveys to gauge children's views on reading.
- * A 'design a book voucher' competition.
- * Creating book recommendation suggestions.
- * A special themed 'World Book Day' lunch menu.
- * A parent/carer Bookbug session in the nursery.
- * All children received a book token to use in a range of participating shops.

This was a fantastic day, greatly enjoyed by all! A big 'thank you' to Mrs Graham, our Literacy Coordinator, for organising this fun event!

'World of Work Week'



Miss Harrington organised a fantastic 'World of Work Week' which took place within the school during the week commencing 18.3.24. During this week, our Primary 1-7 children took part in a range of activities to develop their understanding of different job roles as well as to enhance their skills for learning, life and work. Activities included:

- Skills development activities related to specific job roles such as photographers, mechanics, footballers, chefs, artists, architects etc.
- STEM design and problem-solving projects.

During the week, the children were also given the opportunity to interview and listen to fantastic visitors who came to the school to talk about their jobs. We would like to say a huge 'thank you' to all of our visitors who were very inspiring to our children:

- Cathie Leith (School Nurse)
- Andy Logue (Heart Radio Producer)
- Mrs Tait (Teacher)
- Alan Henderson (Police Helicopter Pilot)
- Ross Murray (Reachout Trust)
- The team at Queen's Park Football Club

Remember to have a look on our school Twitter page to see photographs of this fantastic week!

Nursery Update



March has been a busy month within our nursery! This month we have been enjoying learning our 'Rhyme of the Month' which has been '5 Little Speckled Frogs' and exploring other number rhymes and songs. We have also been enjoying 'Rumble in the Jungle', our 'Book of the Month', exploring where animals live and making habitats for them using the small world and construction areas.

Each month Mrs McKee has been working hard to develop fun and interesting Numeracy activities to try at home with the children. To ensure that these are meeting your needs we would appreciate your feedback and any photographs you have of how you and your child are enjoying these monthly Maths challenges. Likewise, if you have feedback about the monthly rhyme and book bags, please email photographs to the office or fill in the feedback forms in the book bag or a speech bubble from the notice board in the cloakroom.

Within the nursery we strive to provide a welcoming and nurturing environment for the children. Miss McKenzie and Mrs Main hold weekly nurture sessions to support the children's social and emotional development. Mrs Main has also been developing quiet, nurturing areas within the playroom which have proved very popular with the children. This month the 'Tiny Talking Team' have been discussing how they would like to continue to develop these areas to ensure we have safe spaces for the children to use whenever needed.

Each month the 'Tiny Talking Team' meet to discuss what is happening within their nursery, promoting children's voice and gathering their feedback and ideas of what they would like to develop or do within our nursery. It is also important for us to also gather parent/carer views on the nursery and how we can work together to drive forward improvement. As a result, we would like to start a monthly talk shop for parents/carers to discuss what you think about the nursery and how we can all work together to develop and improve. Our first meeting will take place on Wednesday 8th May at 2.15pm and tea and coffee will be provided. We hope you can attend!

The nursery also benefits from the work of the Parent Council (Friends of Loch) and all nursery parents/carers are encouraged to come along to the meetings to give their support and ideas. The next meeting is on Monday 13th May at 6pm and we would be delighted to see you there!

The nursery is lucky to have Mrs Newall from the SLC 'Excellence and Equity Team' working with us until the summer holidays. As she is 'Forest Schools' trained, she has kindly offered to provide sessions for some of our children next term. These sessions will take place either on a Tuesday morning or a Wednesday afternoon and permission slips and further information will be issued soon.

Spring is finally here, and the children have been noticing all of the plants beginning to grow in the garden. We will be focusing on planting and growing over the coming weeks. We would greatly appreciate donations of any extra seeds, plants, plant pots, soil etc that you may have that the children could use in the garden area.

We are looking forward to our Easter Party on Wednesday 27th March. We have arranged an Easter egg hunt in our outdoor area and lots of fun activities!

As the children are outdoors each day, we kindly ask you to ensure that they wear appropriate clothing for the weather and if it is sunny to apply sun cream prior to arrival and to provide your child with sun cream that staff can reapply throughout the day. This will be stored in your child's individual bag.

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. Please note that the nursery will close at 2:30pm on Thursday 28th April for the spring break.

GOOD NEWS!



The Head Teacher Awards this month were presented to:

- Aaron Torley, P3, for excellent manners and behaviour.
- Alicia Rafferty, P6, for showing enthusiasm across the curriculum.
- Katie Love, P4, for always upholding our school 'Vision and Values'.
- Primary 6 Euro Quiz Team (Fouzi Abu Esbaa, Abeeha Hassaan, Ciaran Lithgow and Lily McKenzie) for being excellent representatives of the school at the event.

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

- Reece McLaren, P1, for helping to keep the classroom tidy.
- Orla Flood, P3, for encouraging others when they were finding tasks difficult.
- Willow Allison, P1, for always being kind and caring towards peers.
- Ciaran Lithgow, P6, for always making others happy.

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:

- Millie Beaton, P3, for winning 'star of the week' at her dance class and winning a 'star award' for her excellent acting at her Musical Theatre club.
- Halle Leonard, P5, for winning 2nd place at her acro competition.
- Katy McFarlane, P2 and Jack McFarlane, P5, for winning 2nd place at a drama competition with their group and also being judges' choice.
- Carris Hinshelwood, P6, for winning 2nd place at her hip hop competition.
- Kian Everett, P4, for winning 'star of the week' at his drama class.
- Brody Greig, P4, for winning 'star of the class' at his kickboxing class.
- Sophia Elgey, P5, for winning a 'no cavity club' award from the dentist.
- Brodie Shand, P7, for winning 'student of the week' at karate.
- Archie Sohail, P2, for achieving his second karate grading.
- Kelsey, P7, for receiving her badge as part of Army Cadets.
- Mya, P2/3, for passing her majorettes and tap-dancing exams.
- Niamh, P2/3, for being awarded 'star of the week' at her drama club.
- Halle, P5, for winning 1st place at the Scottish Gymnastics Championships.
- Nevah, P4, for achieving her yellow belt in kick boxing.

There's Lots Going On At Loch!



- Primary 6 after school STEM Young Leaders club continued to take place weekly with Mr Martin.
- Primary 2 had great fun at their after school 'Story Squad' club with Mrs Munro.
- Primary 3 and 4 pupils enjoyed their 'Dodgeball' after school club with Mrs Tait.
- The Primary 5-7 Dance after school club was held with Miss Harrington in preparation for the SLC Dance Showcase at the Rutherglen Town Hall on 27.3.24. We are extremely proud of all of our star pupils on their excellent efforts!
- Primary 5 enjoyed their trip to Science Centre on 8.3.24.
- Our 'Friends of Loch' (Parent Council) meeting took place on 11.3.24.
- Primary 7 participated in the Easter Code workshop on 13.3.24 with the Reachout Trust team and St. Anthony's PS.
- All of our Primary 1-7 pupils participated in our Committee afternoon w/c Monday 11.3.24, developing their leadership skills when working as part of 1 of 4 committees: Social Enterprise (who started planning our next café event with our Outdoor Learning Coordinator), Eco (who discussed all of the ways we can improve our Eco responsibilities within the school and how we can help our environment), Charities (who looked at the role of the 'food bank' and discussed how we can support the local food bank as part of our next charity event) and Health (who have organised and created posters to promote 'Walk to School Week' during 20-24th May).
- Our Primary 5-7 pupils participated in the Rutherglen Logo Competition, designing a logo to be used as part of Rutherglen turning 900 years old celebrations.
- Loch PS and Nursery Class wore red to raise money for Comic Relief on 15.3.24. A big 'thank you' to everyone who donated!
- Our 'Spring Fling Disco' took place on 20.3.24 which was greatly enjoyed by everyone who attended. 'Thank you' to the Parent Council for organising this event!
- Four Primary 6 pupils represented Loch PS at the SLC Euro Quiz on 21.3.24 and participated very well throughout the event!
- Mrs Munro and Miss Simpson visited the 'Art Exhibition' at Cathkin Community Nursery to meet some of our new children starting in August.
- Parents' Evening took place for the school on 26.3.24.
- All of our classes enjoy participating in our weekly assemblies. This month our focus has included input from our Chaplaincy Team about Easter and class assemblies from Primary 1, Primary 4 and Primary 7.

Diary Dates



- The school will close at 2:30pm on Thursday 28th March 2024 for the Spring break. This will be a NON-UNIFORM DAY. The school will reopen on Monday 15th April 2024.
- 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



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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!

