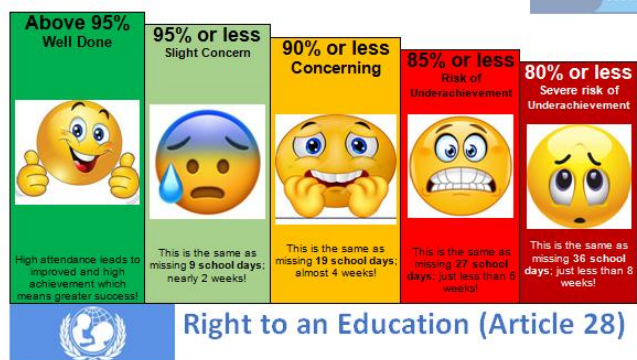


## November 2024 Newsletter

### Attendance and Time-Keeping

Attendance at school is crucial to supporting children's progress, wellbeing and attainment. Your child's attendance rate has an impact on their attainment and achievements:

#### WHAT IS YOUR ATTENDANCE?



We understand that sometimes children cannot attend school due to ill health. Should your child be unwell it is important that you contact the School Office on 0141 634 7217 and leave a message stating the cause of absence and possible date of return. In accordance with South Lanarkshire Council (SLC) 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 your child arrives at school in time for the bell to ring. 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.

We encourage all parents/carers to monitor your child's attendance. Please log on to Parents Portal using the link [www.parentsportalscot.com](http://www.parentsportalscot.com) to check your child's attendance so far this term.

Further advice on how parents/carers can support better attendance can be found in our parent information leaflet on our website -

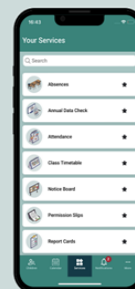
[http://www.loch-pri-s-lanark.sch.uk/index\\_177\\_2002852574.pdf](http://www.loch-pri-s-lanark.sch.uk/index_177_2002852574.pdf)

### Parents Portal App

Parent Mail is now no longer in use due to the end of our subscription. All parents/carers must now use Parents Portal as this will be our main form of communication. Please ensure you download the Parents Portal app. You will be able to receive information, check your child's attendance, respond to permission slips and book Parents' Evening appointments using this app. If you are having trouble downloading this app, please contact the school office for support.

parentsportal.scot

#### Get the App!



### 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/nursery with a snack/packed lunch. Thank you to everyone for your help and support with this matter.

When dropping off/picking up your child from school or nursery, please note that no dogs are allowed within South Lanarkshire Council (SLC) school and nursery grounds. This includes within the school gates at the rear of the school and into the school car park at the front of the school. We kindly ask all parents/carers to keep your dog on a lead at the pick-up/drop off points. We appreciate your support with this matter.

## School Improvement



- Miss Simpson has met with all nursery staff to discuss the progress of all children.
- Miss Simpson attended the Cathkin Learning Community meeting to discuss our attendance and Listening and Talking priorities within all of our schools.
- Mrs McKee attended the Bookbug 'Shared Practice Event' and is looking forward to delivering a Bookbug session this week with our ante-pre children and their parents/carers.
- During our inservice day, our teaching staff participated in 'Play Based Learning' and 'Using Data to Inform Learning and Teaching' training to support our work in these areas. Our nursery staff attended the SLC 'UN Convention on Rights of a Child' Practitioner Event, developing their knowledge of how to incorporate 'Children's Rights' into our nursery daily practice.
- Mrs Munro attended the SLC 'Learning for Sustainability Conference' to further develop ideas to drive forward this priority within our school.
- Mrs Munro participated in a Learning Community Play Based Learning Working Group, sharing good practice with colleagues from local schools.
- Mrs Munro attended Additional Support Needs Coordinator training to keep abreast of new initiatives and developments to ensure all children's needs are met.
- Miss Simpson and Mrs Munro met with all Primary 6 and Primary 7 pupils to participate in Learner Conversations, looking at their work and hearing all about the great learning taking place in Primary 6 and 7!
- Miss Stewart participated in 'Talk for Writing' training to further develop our writing work within the school.
- Mrs Burns and Miss Simpson attended an Attachment Network event to support the development of our Attachment-Informed practice within Loch PS and Nursery Class.

## Nursery Update



November has been another busy month in our nursery. At the start of the month, we learned about Bonfire Night. The children developed their creativity skills through their participation in a variety of experiences and making artwork with a range of resources both indoors and outdoors. This prompted lots of discussion about colours! We also learned about the dangers of fireworks and how to stay safe. This incorporated our 'Right of the Month' from the UNCRC, our right to be safe!

Following on from the children's interests in buses from October's 'Rhyme of the Month - The Wheels on the Bus', a group of children enjoyed an adventure on the bus to the Cathcart Bus Depot! We have also been going on more regular trips within the local community, including visits to the local shops, library, construction sites and nature walks. Our walks have inspired number hunts both within the local community and the school, searching for numbers, identifying them, matching the same numbers and developing our knowledge of number quantities!

This month our 'Book of the Month' has been 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. The children have further developed their Literacy skills by taking part in a variety of activities to support their engagement and participation in storytelling sessions.

Through the 'Tiny Talking Team', the children were involved in planning our Christmas Nativity and we are enjoying practising our songs for our big performance!

As you are aware the temperature has dropped lately and Winter is definitely upon us. The children continue to have access to the outdoors each day and we aim to continue to explore our local community. To support us with this, we kindly ask you to ensure your child is wearing appropriate clothing to nursery to enable them to stay warm and well when out in the colder weather. This also ensures they will continue to enjoy the fantastic experiences on offer. We also kindly ask that your child has a change of clothes available in their bag on their peg and for any clothes that have been borrowed from the nursery to be returned.

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



## Christmas Dates - 2024

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December	P1-7 Pantomime at Hamilton Town House
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	P6 Christmas Unwrapped (9:30am at St. Anthony's PS)  P1 Supporting Families Christmas Parent/Carer Craft Group (1:00pm - 2:30pm)
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Fayre
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	P1/2 Supporting Families Christmas Parent/Carer Craft Group (1:00pm - 2:30pm)
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	P7 Carol Singing at Rutherglen Arcade (11:00am - 12:00noon) and Tesco Dalmarnock (1:00pm - 2:00pm)
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Lunch
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	P7 Carol Singing at Tesco Burnside (11:00am - 12:00noon)
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	P1-P7 Nativity and Christmas Concert (9:30am and 1:30pm)
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Nursery Nativity (9:30am)
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	P4-5 Christmas Party (1:15pm - 2:45pm) (including P4 children from P3/4)
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	P6-7 Christmas Party (1:15pm - 2:45pm)
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	P1-3 Christmas Party (1:15pm - 2:45pm)  Nursery Christmas Party
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	P1-P7 Christmas Quiz (9:15am)  Close 2:30pm

## There's Lots Going On At Loch!



- Primary 5 are continuing to participate in the Youth Music Initiative programme.
- Primary 6 have now completed their weekly swimming lessons.
- Primary 6-7 Gaelic Football After School Club with Active Schools is now completed.
- Our Primary 5-7 Christmas Crafts After School Club is currently underway in preparation for the Christmas Fayre.
- Primary 7 pupils enjoyed assemblies and sessions with Cathkin High School staff to support their transition to high school.
- Primary 5-7 pupils enjoyed participating in the John Wright's Sports Competition on 1.11.24 and will participate again on 29.11.24.
- Nursery Parents' Evenings took place w/c 11.11.24.
- Parents' Night took place on 13.11.24. The raffle raised £179 for school funds at this event - a big 'thank you' to our 'Friends of Loch' for the prize donation and to everyone who purchased a raffle ticket.
- Primary 6 enjoyed their Class Showcase on 14.11.24 where the children were able to share all of their great learning from their 90s topic with their parents/carers.
- Our Children in Need 'Crazy Day' raised a fantastic £984.20 for charity! A big 'thank you' to everyone for their sponsors for our sponsored dance event!
- Primary 1/2, Primary 2/3, Primary 4 and Primary 7 have enjoyed class trips to the library this month.
- Primary 7 enjoyed their class visit to the Science Centre on 20.11.24.
- Committee time took place on 20.11.24.
- Our 'Friends of Loch' meeting took place on 25.11.24.
- All of our classes enjoy participating in our weekly assemblies. This month our focus has been on improving our playground, 'Children in Need' and 'The Six Principles of Nurture', as well as input from our Chaplaincy Team and celebrating our weekly achievements and awards!
- Our Award Winners continue to enjoy their Hot Chocolate Fridays with the Head Teacher!



## GOOD NEWS!



The Head Teacher Awards this month were presented to:

- Phoenix Calder, P2, for being a kind friend to others.
- Lukas MacAree, P5, for showing enthusiasm towards his learning.
- Inaaya Ashraf, Zoey Daly, Abeeha Hassaan, Ciaran Lithgow and Nina Stewart, all P7, for being excellent helpers at Parents' Evening.
- Primary 7 for being excellent representatives of Loch PS at the Science Centre.

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

- Connor Seery, P2, for being a great helper and door holder.
- Brooke MacNeil, P5, for always being a great class helper.
- Eddy Radu, P5, for showing a positive and responsible attitude.
- Taylor Scott, P4, for helping and supporting her peers.

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:

- Amelia Murphy-Crawford, P7, for achieving her Guides' Meditation Badge.
- Callum McConnell, P6, for being the best builder at Minecraft Club.
- Jack McFarlane, P6, for taking part in a SODA Showcase and performing with his Drama Club.
- Katy McFarlane, P3, for performing with her Drama Club.
- Archie Sohail, P3, for achieving his red belt in Karate.
- Brandon Weaver, P4, for showing great sportsmanship and skills at his football club.

## Diary Dates



- The school closes for the Christmas holidays on **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 2:30pm**. The school will re-open on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025.
- All Christmas dates and information for events can be found on Parents Portal or on our school website.

Please check our school website regularly and if you do not already do so, please follow us on 'X', formally known as 'Twitter', (**@LochPrimary**) as we will post regular updates and important information here.

## School Contact Details



Head Teacher: Dawn Simpson  
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)

