

# Nourish our community so everyone can flourish!

STEM

Article 31

I have the right to rest, relax and play

SPORT

Article 29

I have the right to an education which develops my personality, talents and abilities

CREATIVITY

Article 13

I have the right to have my own thoughts and beliefs and choose my own religion

Article 23

If I am disabled I have the right to special care and education

Article 26

If they need it, my family should get money to help bring me up

# COMMUNITY



# STEM

An education that integrates Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths provides pupils with a solid foundation for the future where the rapidly evolving career landscape is powered by rapidly evolving technology. STEM fosters strong analytical and problem-solving skills and provides a platform for developing the 12 Metaskills identified by SDS Scotland. It places learning and education into a real world context, driving both curiosity and ambition. LPS has been very successful in the The Young Engineer Competition last year achieving 2 highly commended awards and 1 winning invention which was built by engineers for the celebrations. The importance of STEM learning and learning through play was highlighted by staff, pupils and parents in our LPS consultation.

Our Play Strategy emphasises the importance of progressive play for learning and a balance of adult led, adult initiated and child led experiences. In a play based classroom, STEM learning is a natural consequence of all the activities and experiences children engage in. Just like real scientists, they will learn by interacting with others and the world around them including outdoor learning experiences. Our STEM room provides of resources for P3-7 to learn through play. Breadth and progression are documented in our science, OL and digital technology pathways. IDL planning ensures depth and cohesion making clear links across curricular areas.

# SPORT

Linlithgow Primary School, has a well-deserved reputation for sporting success within our cluster schools and across West Lothian. All pupils are given the opportunity to develop skills in PE which can then be applied in a number of real life sporting events. P3 pupils take part in a cluster benchball tournament, P5 pupils develop their swimming skills and P7 compete in a rugby tournament. Last year we won the P6 girls Cluster Cross Country competition our team will compete in the West Lothian final. In 2023 our athletics team won not only numerous individual medals but the female competition overall.

Every year, pupils are invited to take part in a range of after school activities from chess club to coding, Euroquiz to Glee, as well a wide range of sporting opportunities. Our netball team competed well in the cluster tournaments, and our football team won not only the George Allan tournament for the second year running, but also the man of the match and overall Linlithgow Football league. At LPS pupils are also encouraged to experience a wider range of outdoor activities from orienteering to pond dipping. P5 and 7 pupils can attend a residential experience and in P6 pupils provided with outdoor experiences such as canoeing and archery in partnership with Xcite. PEF funding is used to reduce the barrier of poverty for identified pupils. Wider achievements are regularly celebrated at assemblies. This year pupils will be supported to develop their profiling skills to document interests and achievements for all children at LPS.

# CREATIVITY

For over 45 years pupils at Linlithgow Primary have had the opportunity to become Palace Guides, leading tours around the birthplace of Mary Queen of Scots. This commitment to developing expressive arts at LPS is continued today by working in partnership with Scottish Opera, Historic Environment Scotland, Linlithgow Gala Committee to provide opportunities for pupils to participate in creative projects. All pupils have the opportunity to perform in class assemblies, the nativity and a school show. Our artwork welcomes visitors to Linlithgow Railway Station and our mosaics can be spotted across town. Pupils are encouraged to develop creative writing skills and this has featured in the Linlithgow Marches magazine and has been recognised in the BBC 500 words competition.

Pupils, parents and children emphasised the importance of allowing children the freedom to explore and develop their creativity across the curriculum. Recognised by skills Development Scotland as one of the 12 Metaskills, creativity prepares our pupils for the work of work as well as promoting wellbeing through relaxation and mindfulness through music and the arts. Recognition of creativity allows many more pupils to shine and experience success. IDL planning encourages meaningful contexts for skills development and play. Creativity in science encourages innovation and in literacy and the arts, creativity promotes connection between individuals and cultures.

# COMMUNITY

Opened in 1967, Linlithgow Primary School lies at the heart of a town steeped in history and tradition. The site of Linlithgow Palace and Peel has been occupied as far back as Roman times, over 2000 years ago, and Linlithgow is now home to almost 13,000 people. There are many community events during the year including the Riding of the Marches which dates back to 16th century, Children's Gala Day and more recently Party at the Palace. There are over 150 community groups and 400 businesses in the Linlithgow Directory.

During our consultation, the rich history and warm welcome of our local community was emphasised. Through our curriculum we strive to connect with people not only in Linlithgow, but also to learn about communities across Scotland and the World. Some of our community links are with Burgh Beautiful, Linlithgow Palace, Xcite Sports Centre, St Michaels Parish and St Ninian's Parish churches, Scottish Energy and Cala Homes. We have gained our Rights Respecting Schools Bronze award and are now aiming for Silver. Our curriculum emphasises sustainability, a commitment to Fairtrade and our HWB trails and school culture encourage kindness to ourselves and others. Our One Trusted Adult approach provides a platform for children to share their worries and support their mental health. All pupils have the opportunity to shape their learning experiences with an emphasis on pupil participation and choice in IDL planning, and all pupils from nursery to P7 being invited to participate in a Pupil Voice Group. Our recently opened Blether Cafe won a Scottish Enterprise Award last year and aims to provide a space to make community connections as well as allowing pupils to develop skills for learning, life and work. We learn about and celebrate Scottish culture but also welcome pupils and families from across the world. Outdoor learning experiences provide opportunities to learn about our community and as a stimulus for learning across the curriculum.

Linlithgow Primary School has a school roll of 346 pupils in P1-7 and 80 in our ELC. Our catchment is varied with 13% of our families experiencing poverty and 23% of our pupils are identified as having additional support needs. Our PEF planning ensures that children who face this barrier are offered additional opportunities to overcome this inequality. We have a sharing shelf open to all, which is stocked with surplus from local businesses and free second and hand uniforms. Parents, staff and pupils work together to support those with ASN, whether physical disability or those with neurodiversity. Curriculum planning is differentiated and progressive, offering support and challenge across the 4 contexts of learning. A parent neurodiversity group offers support for those who care for children with ASN and this year we aim to achieve our Disability Scotland Award. Linlithgow Primary School aims to create a community where every child can flourish.