



LINLITHGOW PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

Together we learn, together we grow!

Growth Mindset, Relationships, Opportunity, Wellbeing

April 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to school everyone and welcome to Term 4, our last term in school, before the summer break. We hope that you all had a wonderful Easter break, and were able to enjoy the lovely weather, particularly on the first week, when the sun shone every single day.

Although our new term has just begun, we will use this newsletter to share some news, from the end of Term 3 and to remind you of key dates, for the forthcoming term. Take care everyone and enjoy the rest of the month. 😊

You Say/We Did: House Point Feedback: Thank you, as always, for all of the positive feedback that you give us on our school. We will always listen to your opinions on how we are doing and will try our best to take action, on anything that you think that we can do to improve, for the benefit of our pupils. Recently, we have been asked to review our House Point system to ensure that there is consistency, in all classrooms, with regards to how this is executed for children. As a reminder, House Points are awarded to pupils for displaying one or more of the attributes, associated with our school values. Our school values are: Growth Mindset, Relationships, Opportunities and Wellbeing.

In addition, to earning points for their own House, children will also be awarded certificates for achieving the following amount of points:

- 25 points- Bronze
- 50 points- Silver
- 75 points- Gold
- 100+ points- Platinum

Certificates are given out at assembly, each week and we also post children's achievements on X, if we have the parental consent to do so.

Class teachers will ensure that they give House Points regularly and that all children are achieving, at their own level. In addition, we will also be introducing a Rainbow Certificate, for children who have achieved 15 points. Hopefully, this improvement will mean that all children receive recognition for the House Points that they earn, within a session.

Class Structure for Session 2025-2026/Pupil Progress Reports: In coming weeks, we will begin to formulate our class structure for next session. We are given this information from the Authority and it is likely that our current structure of 13 classes, will remain in place for next session. We will bring more news of this, as and when we have the information to share. On **Monday 16th June**, we will share Pupil Progress Reports for the session with you, alongside information on the class that your child will go into, next session, as well as details of their teacher(s). As per the norm, this information will be sent home, in a sealed envelope, in children's bags. Please make a note to check bags carefully that evening so that you have all of the information that you need.



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Learning, Teaching and Assessment: Health and Wellbeing: After the May holiday, all classes will begin a block of learning in Health and Wellbeing, on Relationships and Parenthood. This work is age-appropriate and is taught, using a national resource, which is used by all schools, across Scotland to ensure that all children and young people benefit from the same information. We will send an email to all families, in due course, providing access to the resource, which may be helpful in supporting any conversations at home. Thank you for your support with this.

Linlithgow Twinning Association: Guyancourt News: French Student in School: You may remember that we have been re-establishing our links, in France, with the local schools and community in Guyancourt. We are delighted that a French student has joined us this week, in P4A, to work with Ms Daniels and her class. The student will learn English for the week, alongside the children in P4, as well as joining in with all activities in school. She will also benefit from going on a local walk with the class to learn about the town of Linlithgow. Thank you to Ms Daniels for all of her hard work to make this project possible.

Reading Schools Silver Award: Novel Navigators: We are so grateful to Mrs Bryce and the Novel Navigators, Pupil Leadership Group, who enabled us to receive the fantastic, Reading Schools Silver Award, at the end of March. This award shows the significant work that our school community has undertaken to promote a love of books, and of reading across all stages. Pupils in each class, are given time to read for pleasure each day, as part of the timetable, as well as to visit the school library with their class and enjoy the wide variety of texts on offer. We also support children to access texts in different forms, including graphic novels and audio books, to meet their individual needs and preferences.

Pupil Equity Group: Dragon's Den Initiative: Livingston Stadium: Representatives from our Pupil Equity group, supported by Mrs Menmuir, presented their work on Social Enterprise in front of an audience at Livingston Stadium, in early March. This was part of the Dragon's Den opportunity, run by the Social Enterprise Academy. The children who took part, 'pitched' their work around our Blether Café to the audience and were highly commended for doing so. Our Blether Café, continues to be a very popular and inspiring social enterprise activity which benefits both our school and the wider community. Well done to all pupils who took part. We are so proud of you. 😊

Pupil Equity Group: Cost of the School Day: Recognition: Another success for our Pupil Equity Group, saw children attending a special event at Boghall Primary School, with Mrs Matos. The event was to celebrate the work of identified West Lothian Schools in reducing the cost of the school day for families and enabling equity for all. The Cabinet Secretary for Education, attended the event and spoke with staff and children there. It was an honour for our school to be invited to this and we are very proud of our achievements in this area. During



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times of rising costs across the board in society, we will continue to do all that we can to reduce costs in school, for all children.

Neurodivergent Learner- Parent Support Group: The next meeting of our Neurodivergent Learner, Parent Support Group, will be on **Tuesday 20th May at 2pm**, in school. There is no planned theme for this meeting and it will take the form of an 'open forum' to enable questions to be answered and support offered. We do hope that this group is of benefit to everyone. Once again, anyone who feels that the group would be helpful to their child/family, is welcome to attend. 😊

UNCRC/Children's Right of the Month: Articles 24 and 27: World Water Day: This month, our featured Children's Rights promote the right for clean water for all. Did you know that on 22nd March, it was World Water Day? This special day was created in 2015 as a commitment to ensure that all countries in the world work together to make sure that everyone has access to safe, clean water and good sanitation. World Water Day is also designed to inspire everyone to take action and to 'do their bit', to make the necessary changes, at home, to save water, so that the right for clean water can be achieved, for everyone by 2030. Turn off those taps, where you can, save water and help to make clean water available for all. 😊

Partnership Working: Linlithgow Rotary: Rota-Kids Club: In coming months, we are hoping to start a Rota-Kids club in our school, supported by members of Linlithgow Rotary Club. Rota-Kids, in conjunction with the Rotary Club, learn about 'good citizenship' and have the chance to undertake projects, both in our own country and abroad, to help others. We are thankful to Iain Woodhouse at Linlithgow Rotary, for helping us to get this new project off the ground. More information will follow, in due course.

Home Learning: Term 4: Homework and home learning grids for Term 4 will be provided for all pupils on Seesaw (P1-3) and Teams (P4-7) from Monday 28th April onwards. Please continue to support your child to engage in home learning, where possible, and around the constraints of busy home-lives. We continue to provide support, in school, to enable children to complete home learning activities, when it isn't possible for this to be done at home. Please let us know if your child needs this support.

Pupil Leadership Groups: Wellbeing Wanderers: The Wellness Wanderers have been working hard to promote health and wellbeing throughout our school community. They started by designing a mascot to represent the Wellness Wanderers and spark interest in their mission. They also reflected on past Health Week activities and came up with some fresh ideas of their own. In addition, they've been actively encouraging participation in Junior Parkrun by handing out QR codes to make registration easier. Most recently, they've been preparing a school-wide assembly on diversity, which they're excited to present on May 2nd.



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Family Learning Calendar: Daffodil Teas: Feedback: Thank you to all Grandparents, family and friends who came along to our Daffodil Teas, which were held in the middle of March. Our pupils loved making spring-themed crafts to hand over to the visitors and it was a pleasure to see people of all generations, enjoying a drink and a biscuit and some conversation, together.

A massive 'thank you' to our parent and carer volunteers who helped to serve teas and coffees, re-set tables and clean-up on the day. We could not have managed the day without you. Thank you! 😊

Nursery News: Children's Interests: Spring and Book Bug: In recent weeks, children have been exploring their interests around the theme of Spring. Shortly, they will be starting a 'Book Bug' project with a new, lending library to be launched for families. The children have been helping staff to reinvigorate nursery wall displays, over the Easter period, and the nursery environment is looking just lovely. Well done to you all for your hard work!

House Points: Winning House/House Treat: Stuart House: The winning House from last term, who gained over 1,100 points was Stuart. Pupils from this House were able to spin our 'Wheel of Treats', before the end of last term and the selected treat was a Spring Scavenger Hunt! Well done to all pupils in Stuart House for achieving this great success. We hope that all children enjoyed the Scavenger Hunt.

Family Learning Event: Easter Craft Morning: Thank you to all family members who joined us in school on the last day of term, before Easter, for our craft morning. Our Pupil Equity group had designed a fantastic range of craft activities and provided art materials, for all children and visitors to enjoy making Easter crafts together. Some of the crafts came with quite complicated instructions and it was lovely to see everyone working together, to create the amazing, finished items. We had a beautiful array of bunnies, spring flowers, chicks and Easter eggs on the day, all created with an individual and artistic touch. Well done everyone! A fun morning was had by all. 😊

Assembly Calendar: Our Forthcoming Assemblies for Term 4:

- Friday 25th April: Marches Day assembly led by Provost and Deacon's Court.
- Friday 2nd May- Diversity assembly led by Health and Wellbeing Mini-Champs
- Friday 9th May- Class assembly led by P4B (parents/carers invited at 9.45am)
- Friday 16th May- Class assembly led by P3/2 (parents/carers invited at 9.45am)
- Friday 23rd May- Class assembly led by P2 (parents/carers invited at 9.45am)
- Friday 30th May- Class assembly led by P3 (parents/carers invited at 9.45am)
- Friday 6th June- Class assembly led by P1A and P1B (parent/carers invited at 9.45am)
- Friday 13th June- Class assembly led by P4A (parents/carers invited at 9.45am)



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-Friday 27th June- Wellbeing Assembly (Summer Safety) led by Miss Baillie

Thank you so much to P5B who led a marvellous assembly about spring festivals and other world religions, at the end of March, for all of us all to enjoy. Thank you also, to the pupils in P7A who wrote their own assembly, about WW2 and presented it to families on 14th March.

Uniform Swap Shop: Friday 2nd May: Our next Uniform Swap Shop will take place on **Friday 2nd May** from 8.50am until 11.30am, in our school foyer. Please feel free to come along and either donate or pick-up any 'pre-loved' school clothing.

Family Learning Event: Re-scheduled Science Show: Monday 28th April: 6-7pm: You may remember that we unfortunately, had to reschedule the Family Science Show which was due to be delivered in January, by the Royal Institute of Science. This cancellation was due to illness in the team, who were planning to deliver the show. We are delighted to announce that this show will now take place, next **Monday evening (28th April) from 6-7pm** in our school hall. All families from P1-7, are welcome to come along if they would like to do so. The show will hopefully be both educational and a lot of fun.

Sun Safety: Term 4: As we come into the warmer weather, we are reminding all parents/carers to please ensure that children wear sun cream when coming to school, each day, and bring a cap and water-bottle to school with them on hot days. Please also, make sure that children bring a waterproof jacket to school, each day. We plan to be outdoors a lot of the time, this term, and want all children to feel comfortable, in all weathers. Thank you for your support with this. 😊

Health and Wellbeing: Reminders for Term 4: A little reminder to please encourage 'good handwashing', at home, and especially before eating and after using the toilet, to help us to prevent the spread of germs and illnesses in school. We have had a few parents contact us about outbreaks of head lice in school and again, we'd ask parents/carers to please check children's heads regularly and to seek support from the pharmacy, for treating any persistent lice. Once again, thank you all for your support to keep children healthy and well. 😊

Pupil Writing: This month we are delighted to share the work of some of Leila in P4A, who wrote a letter to Pamela Butchart, an author who recently visited us in school. Leila and her classmates, wrote to Pamela, thanking her for visiting and telling her about how her talk, inspired their own attempts to be authors. Well done Leila for your lovely letter. I'm sure that Pamela was very touched to receive it. 😊

Dear Pamela,



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Thank you for coming to our school. I enjoyed learning where you found inspiration and I thought that the show as creative and funny.

I've been writing my own story, it's called "A Day in Autumn". It's about a boy who went to the woods without telling anyone, then he came across a bear... It was a good bear and it didn't hurt him. Don't worry there is a happy ending! I enjoy writing books and stories. I find it calming and relaxing.

At the moment, we've been doing information reports mixed up with a bit of non-fiction, stories and comics. I like doing 'free writing' as much as possible but sometimes I watch Horrible Histories or Newsround. I'm quite a big writer, I think. It's fun!

I like the inspiration that you gave me. I have so many ideas and I feel like writing all day. Sometimes when I'm upset, I write in my book. That cheers me up. I read your books and that cheered me up too.

Sincerely, Leila.

Date for your diary: Reminder: P6/7 School Show: As you may be aware, some children in Primary 6 and 7 have been busy rehearsing for their production of Oliver. The performances will take place on **Wednesday 21st and Thursday 22nd of May.**

For main cast, their performance night will be confirmed prior to tickets going on sale. Please remember these cast members are still part of the production on the alternative evening.

Doors will open at 6pm on both evenings, with the performances starting at 6.30pm. Cast will be asked to come to the school slightly earlier, time will be confirmed closer to the production. There will be an interval during the show, where refreshments will be on sale.

Tickets will be on sale on the iPay shop, available to cast members and their families first, then offered out to the rest of the school. Tickets will cost £5 for adults and £3 for children.

Deacon's Court Street Fair Ball Race: On Saturday 10th May, over 1000 multi-coloured ping-pong balls will be released down the steps at the Rose Gardens by the Deacon's Court, and the first 5 numbered balls to reach the bottom win a prize! Also, children there on the day can take part in the Golden Ball Scramble to find one of the 10 gold balls (in recognition of the Deacon's Court 50th anniversary) to win a bonus mini-prize!

Entry costs £1 per ball and there is no limit to the number of balls that you can purchase through the iPay shop. To find the shop on iPay, please click "Accounts", then "Select" next to your child's name. The deadline for purchasing balls for the race is Thursday 1st May.

All proceeds from this event will go to school funds. We are so grateful to the Deacon's Court for supporting our school in this way.

A numbered ball will be allocated against each entrant before the event (from the iPay shop purchase list) and winners will be called out on Saturday 10th May at around 3.30pm at the Rose Gardens, just off the Cross. If the winners aren't present, the Deacon's Court will contact the school to arrange delivery of the prize(s). Good luck!



REMINDERS:

Parking and Stopping around School: Please drive and park safely on Preston Road for the safety of all children. Please also, avoid using our school car park for parking or stopping at any time. The car park is for staff use only, unless you are a Blue Badge holder.

Child Protection: Please speak to Miss Baillie/Mrs Matos if you have any concerns about the safety or welfare of any child in our school community. You can also phone Broxburn Social Work Department (Children and Families), to report a concern for any child on 01506 284440 at any time. It's the job of everyone to keep children safe.

P.E Kit: Please can we ask that children have a P.E kit available at all times in school? Sometimes, staff will take children for an extra P.E lesson and or activity that is better suited to sportswear. In younger years, a P.E kit is helpful if children have an accident and need to be changed in school. Thank you for your help with this.

Drinks in school: Please help us to help our children to learn best, by only providing water for them to drink in school. We don't allow energy drinks in school as many of these aren't recommended for children's consumption.

Dogs in the playground: Please remember that it is West Lothian Council policy that dogs are not allowed in our school playground or grounds at any time. Thank you for your help with this important matter.

Labelling clothing: We still have a large volume of lost property in school each day. Please help us to re-unite lost items with their owner by labelling all items that children wear and/or bring to school.

Outdoor Clothing: Please help us to allow children to play and learn outdoors, in all weathers, by ensuring that they come to school wearing waterproof jackets and have appropriate footwear. Many thanks for your help with this.



DATES FOR DIARIES:

- Monday 28th April- Royal Institute of Science family show at 6pm in school hall.
- Thursday 1st May- deadline for purchasing balls for Deacons Court Street Fair Ball Race on iPay.
- Friday 2nd May- 8.50-11.30am- Uniform Swap Shop in school foyer.
- Friday 2nd May- P7 quiz team at Rotary Quiz area final, Dean Park Primary School.
- Monday 5th May and Tuesday 6th May- school closed for May holiday. Nursery closed on Monday 5th May.
- Wednesday 7th May- All pupils return to school.
- Friday 9th May- P4B class assembly, parents/carers welcome at 9.45am.
- Thursday 15th May- Generation Science workshop in school for P3 pupils.
- Friday 16th May- P3/2 class assembly, parents/carers welcome at 9.45am.
- Wednesday 21st May, P6 Rugby Festival at Linlithgow Rugby Club- details to follow.
- Wednesday 21st and Thursday 22nd May- P6/7 production of Oliver, school hall.
- Friday 23rd May- P2 class assembly, parents/carers welcome at 9.45am.
- Week beginning Monday 26th May- Health Week for ELC and P1-7- details to follow.
- Tuesday 27th May- P5 Sound of Music workshop in school.
- Wednesday 28th May- School Sports Day- details to follow.
- Thursday 29th May- Blether Café, school hall.
- Friday 30th May- P3 class assembly, parents/carers welcome at 9.45am.
- Friday 6th June- 8.50-11.30am- Uniform Swap Shop in school foyer.
- Friday 6th June- P1A & P1B class assembly, parents/carers welcome at 9.45am.
- Monday 9th June- P6 trip to Edinburgh Zoo.
- Tuesday 10th June- P5 trip to Dynamic Earth.
- Friday 13th June- P4A class assembly, parents/carers welcome at 9.45am.
- Monday 16th - Friday 20th June- 'Make Music Week' in school for all classes.
- Monday 16th June- P7 trip to Blair Drummond.
- Monday 16th June- Pupil Progress Reports and Class/Teacher information for session 25-26 to all parents/carers- check bags that evening!
- Tuesday 17th June- Linlithgow Marches holiday, school closed, Nursery open.
- Wednesday 18th – Friday 20th June- P7 transition visit to Linlithgow Academy.
- Thursday 19th June- P1 trip to Almond Valley.
- Friday 20th June- 'Move it Up' transition morning for P1-6 pupils- A chance to meet new teachers and visit new classrooms. 😊
- Thursday 26th June- P7 Leavers' Show at 5.30pm in school hall- details to follow.
- Friday 27th June- break for Summer Holidays at 12.25pm.
- Wednesday 13th August- All pupils return to school. Nursery will remain open throughout the Summer Holiday.



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